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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF

THE REV. RICHARD GRAVES, M. A.

Rector of Claverton, in Somersetshire.

(WITH A PORTRAIT.)

——Nec turpem senectam
Degere, nec cithará carentem. HOR.

THE retirement of unambitious men affords few objects to gratify the hopes and enrich the stores of biographical research. A man, of whose life forty-nine years have been passed without absence for a single month, at any one period, from his parish, must hardly expect that his name shall be very widely diffused within the active scenes of the world, where perpetual occupation throngs the entrance, and perpetual competition almost precludes the access of unassuming simplicity and modest truth. Observation of public life too readily suggests a fear, that a man, *fettered* by the possession of these qualities, will never at all make his way to the notice of those whom Nature has qualified him to delight and improve; but we derive consolation from remarking, that, while impostors and mere pretenders to distinction break suddenly in upon the road of fame, post up and down for a time at random, and are then driven off and forgotten, real merit in the mean time slowly, and sometimes almost imperceptibly, travels onwards, and, as it advances nearer and nearer towards the pinnacle of its aim, the trace of every footstep in its path is indelible.

Mr. Graves, of Claverton, is the younger son of a respectable gentleman's family in the North of Gloucestershire. His father, Richard Graves, Esq. of Mickleton, was a man of eminent endowments and literature, particularly versed in the study of Roman and British Antiquities, and so excellent an historian and medalist, that Mr. Hearn, the celebrated Oxford Antiquary, distinguished him by the appellation of

Gravesius Noster. He made vast collections from Doomsday-book, the MSS. and Records in the Tower, and other authentic stores of information, towards the history of the Vale of Evesham, in which a part of his estates was situated; all which papers, after his death, came into the hands of his friend James West, Esq. late President of the Royal Society, and at Mr. West's decease were sold, in 1772, to the Earl of Shelburne. His epitaph in Mickleton church is written with peculiar elegance by Mr. West.

Richard Graves, the subject of this Memoir, was born at Mickleton, in the year 1715, and received his earliest tuition from the Curate of the parish, who, to gratify the literary taste of his father, taught him at the age of twelve years to study Hesiod and Homer. About a year afterwards he was sent to a public school at Abingdon, in Berkshire, and when just turned of sixteen was chosen a Scholar of Pembroke college, in Oxford. On his arrival at college, he was invited to join a party of young men of extraordinary sobriety, who amused themselves every evening with reading Greek and drinking water, which wholesome beverage Dr. Cheyney had brought considerably into vogue. At the head of this singular Society was Dr. Dumaresque, afterwards Chaplain to the Factory at Petersburg, and now in his eighty-eighth year settled in a living in Somersetshire. Mr. Graves was, to use his own words, *a pretty good Grecian*, when he first went to Oxford, and during his continuance in such company for six months, in which time he had read over Epictetus, Theophrastus's Characters, Phalaris's Epistles, and such other Greek authors as are less frequently read in schools, it is to be supposed that he considerably enlarged his stores of erudition, and fixed his taste for literary pleasures.

He did not, however, confine himself to this temperate society. After mixing successively in the various parties into which colleges are usually divided, he became particularly attached to Mr. Shenstone and Mr. Anthony Whistler, a young man of family and fortune in Oxfordshire, since likewise distinguished as the friend and correspondent of Shenstone. These three met almost every evening during the summer, and, less abstemious, though not less devoted to intellectual acquirement than the former party, "sipped Florence wine, and read plays and poetry, Spectators and Tatlers, and other writings of easy digestion."

The conversation of men of such pleasing character was too congenial to Mr. Graves's mind to admit of any wish to change his present abode and situation, but as the revenues of a scholarship of Pembroke were very inadequate to the expences of an University education, he availed himself of his acquaintance with the late Mr. Wood, of Littleton, then a Fellow of All Souls, and was, by his interest, elected Fellow of that college in 1736.

It is to his intimacy with Mr. Shenstone that Mr. Graves has been heard modestly to attribute the first notice he received from the world on appearing as a candidate for literary honours; but neither did his

his talents require the recommendation of his friend's celebrity, nor was Mr. Shenstone the only person in whose regard his merits found their just estimation and support. At All Souls, with no less advantage to his growing fame, he formed likewise an intimate friendship with Mr. Blackstone, afterwards Sir William Blackstone; a man, whose extensive acquaintance with the various departments of Science and Art was only surpassed by his profound knowledge of the laws of his country. With this great man Mr. Graves lived in habits of the most unreserved and social intercourse, and their college friendship afterwards continued, uninterrupted and undiminished, to the latest hour of Sir William's life.

Mr. Graves had early resolved to devote himself to theological studies; but the vivacity of his temper, ill suited to inactive contemplation, soon led him astray, and his thoughts turned to the more worldly allurements of the medical profession. Preparatively therefore to the study of physic, he came to London, and went thro' two courses of anatomy with the celebrated Anatomist Dr. Nichols, when the attack of a nervous fever, occasioned probably by too ardent application, compelled him to relinquish his medical pursuits, and he resumed the study of divinity, and in 1741 entered into Holy Orders. He now received an invitation from the amiable Mr. Fitzherbert, the father of the present Lord St. Helen's, who was just going to settle on his estate in Derbyshire, and, having a donative in his gift, wished to obtain the domestic society of a clergyman. Mr. Graves accordingly accompanied him to Tippington, where his house became the resort of the most promising characters of the age, Mr. Pratt, afterwards Lord Camden, Sir Eardly Wilmot, Mr. N. Harding, Clerk of the House of Commons, &c. &c. Here Mr. Graves resided for nearly three years, until he was called away by the duties of his college, where he was coming by turn into office. This induced him to wish for a curacy nearer to Oxford, and, having obtained one by the unsolicited kindness of a distant relation, he went to reside at it soon afterwards.

But his career of learning was now interrupted by a power which often inspires, and often triumphs over, the Muses. In the family, to which, on account of the incommodious state of the parsonage, he was admitted as a boarder, he became enamoured of the youngest daughter of a gentleman farmer, possessed of no other dower than beauty and artless good humour, and, his mind being filled with ideas of the most romantic happiness, he instantly solicited her father's consent, and married her, without deigning to cast a thought on the indiscretion of such a proceeding.

His college views, destroyed by the very means which he had taken to promote them, were now at an end, and, his marriage giving offence to his opulent relations, he was at once thrown on the world with no other resource than the slender fortune of a younger brother, and a curacy of fifty pounds a-year.

A series, however, of unexpected events relieved him from these threatening embarrassments. By a Fellow of All-Souls, in no other respect friendly to him, he was advised to apply to Sir Thomas H——, for his interest to procure a living then vacant in the neighbourhood; but as Mr. Graves had little or no claim on Sir Thomas's kindness, his application was on the point of becoming entirely fruitless, when a casual interview with Mr. Skrine*, a young gentleman of fortune, who was in search of a proper person to fill a living in his gift, fortunately reminded Sir Thomas of Mr. Graves's suit, and he procured for him the presentation to Claverton.

The prospects of his life were thus closed in by a confined, but serene horizon; and on this living, to which he came in 1750, Mr. Graves has ever since resided, as was before hinted, without absenting himself a single month at any one time; exhibiting an example worthy of the approbation of *all*, and the imitation of *many*, clergymen.

His life since this period has been neither inactive nor useless to mankind. Besides his various literary compositions, as he found himself under the necessity of educating his own children, he was induced to take likewise other young gentlemen under his care, and his reputation as a classic scholar, at once profound and elegant, soon added celebrity and numbers to his school.

The vicinity of Claverton to Prior Park, the residence of the humble and illustrious Allen, afforded frequent opportunities of meeting and conversing with the visitors of that house, men selected for, and distinguished by, superior talents and virtue; from all of whom Mr. Graves met with the most gratifying attention, and particularly from the Bishop of Gloucester, among whose failings certainly was not that of wishing to stifle merit, or impede the progress of genius†.

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* The father of the accomplished Lady Clarges.

† As Mr. Allen lived in what was *then thought a princely* style, many of the first characters in England, distinguished by their rank, their learning, or their skill in any art or science, were the frequent guests of Prior Park. Mr. Pope, who was almost an inmate there, had now been dead some years, and Fielding was become a Middlesex Justice; but Dr. Warburton, Dr. Hurd, Mr. Richardson, the author of Clarissa, Mr. Mason, Mr. Hoare of Bath, Dr. Balguy Prebendary of Windsor, and many other literary and remarkable characters, were hospitably and politely received by Mr. Allen.

(To be concluded.)

THE

THE REVIEW.

Strictures on the Modern System of Female Education. By Hannah More.

[CONCLUDED FROM VOL. II. P. 579.]

'INSTEAD of being guided by the broad views of general truth, and having one fixed principle, they are driven on by the impetuosity of the moment. And as they do not accustom themselves to appreciate the real value of things, their attention is as likely to be led away by the under parts of a subject, as to seize on the leading feature.'

'Open-hearted indiscreet girls,' she continues, 'often pick up a few strong notions that are as false in themselves as they are popular among the class in question. Such as,' that 'warm friends must make warm enemies'—that 'the generous love and hate with all their hearts'—that 'a reformed rake makes the best husband'—that 'there is no medium in marriage, but that it is a state of exquisite happiness or exquisite misery;' with many other doctrines of equal currency and equal soundness. 'These they consider as axioms, and adopt as rules of life.'

Miss MORE seems, however, in the observations she makes, to be aware that the error respecting these often and justly censur'd notions is rather an illusion of willing credulity than of the judgment. And of the last she says, what in general will be true, tho' there are happy and unhappy exceptions, that it is a supposition equally delusive, though not equally blameable with the others. For that 'marriage is only one certain modification of human life: and human life itself is not commonly a state of exquisite extremes: but is usually that mixed and moderate state so naturally dreaded by those who set out with fancying this world a state of rapture, and so naturally expected by those who know it to be a state of probation and discipline'—that 'marriage, therefore, is only one condition, and often the best condition of that imperfect state of being, which, tho' seldom very exquisite, is often very tolerable, and which may yield much comfort to those who look not for constant transport.'

On the false views which young ladies are apt to form, Miss MORE, with a kind of *Platonic* enthusiasm, arraigns the *Poets:* forgetful perhaps a little that she is a sister of the tuneful choir, and has cull'd many an honourable wreath, beautiful and fragrant, of lasting verdure and of salutary power, from the *Aonian* Mount. The Poets, perhaps, have not in general been very extravagant panegyrists of matrimony. Cupid more than Hymen has been the object of their idolatry. And perhaps, as might be expected, young ladies, in listening to very *grave Divines*, might be as likely to be led into high expectations of the blessings to be derived from the holy state of matrimony, as by listening to aught that ever *Bard* has 'sung in hall or bower.'

We hope, however, that nothing we have here said will be misconstrued into ridicule; for of this "perpetual fount of domestic sweets," this

this great bond of society, we think with the esteem and veneration with which we ought to think.

Miss More proceeds to comment on the *false* delicacy which makes *weakness* a perfection, *uselessness* an elegance, and *selfishness* * a proof of peculiar sensibility. She thus forcibly expresses herself:—'When feeling stimulates only to self-indulgence, when the more exquisite affections of pity and sympathy evaporate in sentiment, instead of flowing out in active charity, exerting itself in all the various shapes of assistance, protection, and consolation for every species of distress, it is an evidence that the feeling is of a spurious kind, and, instead of being nourished as an amiable tenderness, it should be subdued as a fond and base self-love.'

Her next animadversions are directed against *idleness*, against husbands encouraging the foibles of their wives, through false-fondness, or vanity, or indolence, or a general though conceal'd undervaluing of the talents and disposition of the sex.

She then returns to another and severer charge than her first against the *Poets*, in which part is but too well founded, and part may be justly thought to be unreasonably severe. The arms which Nature has given to the sex may be misemployed: all advantages of every kind are liable to be so by our imperfect and fallible species. Too great a value may be annexed to these advantages in preference and exclusion to those great and necessary qualities which are essential to the species, and characterise human nature in its proper tendency to perfection. Still, after all, beauty, and the persuasive charm of engaging manners, are arms which cannot be despised without renouncing human sentiment, and arraigning the designations of Providence itself. 'Smiles and tears' may be the dishonour'd engines of folly, or capriciousness, or deceit; but they may not less be the natural, the affecting, the ingenuous expressions of a delicate, a feeling, amiable, and virtuous mind. That man has already pronounc'd woe against himself, who has made it a principle to contemn them.

The chapter concludes with a just encomium on *Simplicity;* and a censure on the affectation insidiously made of it. And here, perhaps, we trace a charming passage of Marmontel†. At least there is much resemblance of thought and expression.

The next chapter is on *Dissipation,* ‡ *and the Modern Habits of Fashionable Life.* And here, perhaps, nothing will be expected very new for selection, or very essential to be abstracted. The *evil* in general is notorious and confessed. The *remedy* consists not so much in the display of it by representation, or in the censure of it, however just, and however eloquent, as in the early infusion of a different taste and of opposite principles and habits. To those who are entering into life with uncorrupted affections, it may however be useful to be warned, as they are here by Miss More, how inconsistent a life of fashionable dissipation, even when not productive of

* P. 125. † Contes Moraux. ‡ Ch. xvi.

positive

positive and gross criminality, is with the *domestic* pleasures and affections, habits and duties; and how incompatible, though perhaps this they will believe only from the sure but too late instruction of experience, even with *that* pleasure which the votaries of dissipation pursue, at every hazard, and through every sacrifice!

The next chapter is on *Public Amusements* *. As long as Miss More confines her censure of these to the case of their being so far in possession of the time and thoughts as to interfere with *duty*, there can be no rational difference of opinion.

The title of the following chapter is this:—*A Worldly Spirit incompatible with the Spirit of Christianity*†. So it certainly is: for a worldly spirit is careless of others, selfish, unprincipled. It is therefore contrary to the benevolent spirit of Christianity: it is contrary to the spirit of all morality; benevolence, social sympathy, wisdom, justice, and all the virtues. This is manifestly true; and expressly indeed declar'd. And by being contrary to these, it is at the same time necessarily contrary to the only permanent and unprecarious pleasures.

The nineteenth chapter is entitled, On the leading Doctrines of Christianity‡. The Reviewer has already express'd his surprise that the *corruption of human nature*, in the sense in which it appears to be understood by Mr. Wilberforce, and others of the same persuasion, should continue to lead the van of those doctrines. Not so do the voice and the behaviour of Christ speak of little children. Nor so do the Apostles teach us to consider 'Christian virtue as a thing *essentially* and *quite* different from Pagan.' On the contrary, we have, in the Acts §, the history of a vision to instruct *Peter* of the error of his prepossession in favour of *one* nation, and of the followers of the *Mosaic* dispensation in prejudice to the rest of mankind; and to suggest to him the remembrance of this great and consoling truth, which is *indeed* the voice of the deity—the voice of supreme reason, and goodness, and perfect justice—speaking in the heart of man, and intelligible through the universe:—that in every nation he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted of him ||. And in the Gospel we contemplate the benign and humble, though sublimely and transcendently great, the divinely empowered prophet and teacher, the Son of Man, not speaking of man as universally and *from the birth* full of malignity and depravity, and irreclaimably vicious unless by *supernatural* grace: but, on the contrary, reproving his disciples when they would have kept little children from him as unworthy of his presence, affectionately embracing, blessing them, with pious and benevolent fervor, and declaring that of such *is the kingdom of heaven* **. Assuredly of the benevolent, the humble, the docile, and the pure, the kingdom of heaven, or the *reception* of the *Gospel*, is declar'd peculiarly to be: these are the dispositions, therefore, which we may more fitly presume that

* P. 181. † P. 209. ‡ P. 249. § Ch. x. || V. 35. ** Mar. x. 13.

Christ recognizes in *children;* and, consequently, that human nature was not in his eye such as a mistaken zeal for the honour of christianity has of late induced many to consider it.

When Miss More attempts to prove the universal suspicion and persuasion of human depravity * from our having *bolts* and bars for our houses, *prisons* for offenders, and *bonds* and other securities for our pecuniary transactions, the Reviewer cannot help thinking she argues very hastily and very inconclusively, and draws an unlimited consequence from premises which cannot properly include it. And when she would prove it from *Revelation*†, confessing that 'the grand arguments from it must be drawn from the Holy Scripture,' the Reviewer thinks she equally fails ‡.

The argument that those who deny the universal inherent original corruption of mankind must suppose that there are some persons *sinless*, the Reviewer of this article cannot admit. In his apprehension *sin* is *error* concerning our conduct as creatures liable to religious obligation. The universal fallibility of finite beings, and the many circumstances, society being as it is, which will lead any human being into error, however previously incorrupt, may sufficiently account for our inability to assert, or even to believe, that any person of full years and living in the world can be absolutely sinless and morally perfect. It is true, that an eloquent historian has ascribed to Scipio Æmilianus this perfect character, *that* he never spake, did, or thought, in his whole life, any thing which was not worthy of praise§. And it is true, that no less a character for judgment, sincerity, piety, and virtue, than Hoadley, has transferred this eulogium to Dr. Clarke ‖. Be it admitted, that it cannot be literally and rigorously true of *any* human being. Be it allowed, that such is the language of friendship, of affection, of generous enthusiasm, overflowing at the contemplation of amiable and exalted virtue; rather than of correctness. Be it confessed, that it would be better, in such instances of high excellence, to express ourselves as the late Mr. Maty (excellent his-self) did of his admirable friend Dr. John Jebb;—speaking of him, from experience and observation under the most various circumstances, and which most prove men's hearts, as "*the best and* most blameless of human beings he had ever known;" without annexing even to his character, which might have borne it, if any, absolute and unerring perfection—still it will be far from proving that all are essentially, radically, and from birth corrupt, if we grant that *none* actually pass through the state of man on this earth perfectly

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* P. 255, &c. † P. 257.

‡ Why did Miss More, in quoting, omit the clause, "*he chargeth his angels with folly*¶." This would have weakened the application to absolute and peculiar corruption in man.

§ *Nihil non laudandum aut dixit, aut fecit, aut sensit.*
Vell. Paterc. i. 12.

‖ In the Life prefix'd to the Sermons.

¶ Job

exempt

exempt from error during the whole of their progress. There is no necessity, for the honour of christianity, to represent it as having retrieved human nature from a disease *universal* and naturally incurable. The praises of empiricism to its medicines are not the praises which Christianity assumes to herself. Human nature is of God; reason, virtue, and morality, are of God: we must not think we exalt revelation when we degrade these. To animate, support, preserve, and perfect tho *good*—to be the guardian, the stay, and the *present* heaven of *innocence*—is not less honourable, less worthy of christianity, than to reclaim the wicked: and how infinitely more honourable to *christianity* than referring all to a *faith* supposed to be infallible because imagined supernatural: and on the same imagination inferring the goodness of the conduct, or the *works* and their acceptableness to the DEITY, from this faith; rather than judging of the faith by its influence on the affections and conduct, the criterion to which an *Apostle* * has referred its truth, its sincerity, and its value. Thus indeed 'a flattering unction is laid to the soul;' but not thus is christianity honour'd. One observation however is very good; and there are others of similar merit—that in which Miss MORE powerfully represents the error 'of considering christianity rather as a duty binding at particular times on *all*, and only on *some* at *all* times, than as being of *universal and unremitting obligation*†.'—This indeed belongs to the preceding chapter; but it is not unsuitably that we have noticed it here.

The Reviewer must notice another which he thinks a great error—that of representing the Gospel as positively asserting that '*few will be saved.*' The disciples put the *question*‡, as apprehensive it *might* be thus. The original is very expressive of uncertainty and awe—the *answer* is truly suited rather to excite their most solicitous and persevering exertions, than to *inform* them of the final destination of others. It certainly does represent that many, who suppose their ritual, and even some moral observations, will have secured their salvation, will find that the happiness of heaven is incompatible with the habits and state of mind of "*workers of iniquity.*" But that this state and these habits NEVER shall be purified and rendered fit for happiness, the Reviewer thinks that Scripture has not asserted: and he trusts that the contrary is a truth deducible from the ALL PERFECT attributes of the Deity, and from the *nature* of man: though the time and means of purification, where the evil is deeply rooted, may, indeed must, be inconceivably awful: and though it be indeed true, that "*without holiness no man shall see the Lord.*"

In the latter end of this chapter Miss MORE has a remark which has incurred the animadversion of a very able writer§, in a tract which we propose soon to review. It is sufficient to say here, that he rejects, and we think disproves, a supposed distinction of St. PAUL, a;

* Ja. 2. v. 19. &c. † P. 234. ‡ Lu, xiii. v. 23.

§ The Rev. CHARLES DAUBENEY.

throwing the *doctrines* of christianity under one head, and the *duties* as practically growing out of them under another; and as supposing that wherever the one was received the other would necessarily be found of course. The Apostle, we think, as his Great Master, inculcates the doctrines and duties *interwovenly:* and that by him and higher authority it is supposed that there may be a belief generally right, but not kept sufficiently in mind to produce a correspondent *practice.*

The concluding chapter of the Work is ON THE DUTY AND EFFICACY OF PRAYER*.

Miss MORE *might* have gone, and we think (this Reviewer, at least, thinks) she *ought*, more largely into the argument which proves that prayer is *not* derogatory to the *omniscience* of the *Deity;* who knows our wants before we express them, and much better than we know them when we attempt to express them. These are no reasons *against* prayer; though they *are* for caution on the *nature* and *object* of our prayers. The proper object of prayer is not to inform the Deity; but to keep our own minds in a proper sense of our relation as creatures, rational, social, accountable creatures to the universal all-perfect Father: not to suggest, and much less by importunity to obtain, particular objects of our desire; but to accustom us to desire *that only* which we can without shame ask of the SUPREME PERFECTION—to submit ourselves chearfully to his will; to follow the dictates of his word as we conceive it written; and of that word of truth, and justice, and purity, and benevolence, which abstractedly from all revealed communication is written in the *heart,* speaks to our reason, convinces our feelings, is implanted in our conscience.

It was surely almost unnecessary to have answered the objection that man is too insignificant to be an object of the care of the Creator: as if any creature could be beneath or beyond the scope of creating power, providence, and benignity!

She well answers the supposed incompatibility of the prayers of one with those of another—That this can not be, if we ask, as primary and absolute objects of our request, virtue only and piety; objects which can not interfere with the claims of any other. And even *Pagan* moralists and *Poets* † have well seen that we cannot pray for any thing else without great incongruity, and at the risque of being punished by the grant of our prayer.

Another objection against prayer it would seem to have been far better to have answered than to have declined: its supposed inconsistence with the *immutability* of the *Deity.* The answer long since given we think is just and satisfactory. It is not imagined by those who reflect justly that prayer *changes* the *Deity.* But the person who prays in the sincerity and purity of heart, exerts sentiments and habits of veneration, of filial affection towards the Supreme Father, which produce, as they are already the result of good principles and sentiments, a

* P. 295—322.

† PLATO in Alcibiade; JUV. Sat. X. PERS. II.

meliorating

meliorating change in the state of his own mind and conduct; and render him fit for blessings, of which in another state he is neither fit nor capable*. And truth and justice require that what *is* different should have different consequences and results in the dispensations of that Providence which sees all things and their relations as they truly are.

Toward the close she recommends, what assuredly is one of the highest and purest acts of prayer, and such as no philosophy can reject which admits the divine existence, *pious gratitude and thanksgiving* for the *goodness* of GOD, which is ever over all.

We shall here close the Review of these volumes on FEMALE EDUCATION and Manners. Wide as that scope is which their immediate subject includes, they have extended, and very justly and necessarily, in a more full range: for EDUCATION cannot be well conducted *for either* sex, nor MANNERS well estimated, without considering both in reference to the WHOLE SPECIES.

Those observations have been prolonged to an unusual length; but perhaps not to a greater than is justified and was even requisite. But of this, intelligent, candid, and attentive readers, will judge better than it is probable the Reviewer can for himself. This only he knows: that he has with pleasure snatched time, which other avocations often with difficulty allow him, to devote his best exertions to this: and that, if he has err'd, he shall be glad to learn and to rectify his error. And so far as he may have promoted the interests of EDUCATION in general, and particularly of FEMALE EDUCATION, he shall most sincerely rejoice: knowing that if success be attained in this pursuit no greater service or purer benefit can be rendered to a community.

Browne's Travels in Egypt. *(Concluded from Vol. II. Page 567.)*

AS we have already stated, from Mr. Browne's Preface, the cause which prevented him from penetrating into Abyssinia, and the motives which determined him to go to Dar-Fûr, it is unnecessary here to repeat them. He left Kahira, in company with the caravan of Jelabs, in March 1793; and, having proceeded up the Nile as far as Assiût, on the 25th of May he directed his course over the mountains to the west, towards El-Wah, the Oasis Magna. His route afterwards was, with some variation to the west, almost directly south. On the 23d of July, he reached the confines of *Dar-Fûr*. When we consider that this was a journey of not less than 900 or 1000 miles from Kahira, the greater part of the road lying through sandy deserts, and attended with every inconvenience which could arise from the indifference of his company, and the villainous infidelity of those on whom he had a right to depend, every one must acknowledge that at least the highest praise of resolution and intre-

* WOLLASTON'S REL. of NAT. *delin.*

pidity is due to the author of these Travels. At *Sweini*, the first village where he stopped after entering *Dar Fûr*, he was detained ten days, notwithstanding all his remonstrances. He found himself treated with a degree of jealousy and suspicion, for which he could not account till long after; and it was with the utmost difficulty that he at last obtained admittance to the presence of the Sultan. But we shall present our readers with his own statement of his situation, and the causes of it, as he afterwards ascertained them.

'The circumstances attending myself were peculiar; and many of the disadvantages I had to contend with could not be well foreseen; it is therefore necessary to mark them, that if any occasion should offer, they may be serviceable to others, and for this reason they shall be detailed at some length.

'Before leaving Kahira, I was apprised that all commerce in Dar-Fûr was conducted by means of simple exchange. To carry on this in such a way as not to be grossly defrauded, especially having my attention engrossed by other objects, and in utter ignorance of the articles fit for bargain and sale in this country, seemed wholly impossible; I therefore sought for a person who might go through this business for me, at least with some share of probity. Such a one arose to the notice of my friends there; and knowing nothing more of the man, as indeed I could not know any thing more, than the character they gave of him, I took him on the general recommendation of being honest, and understanding the business in which he was likely to be employed. The person recommended had been a slave-broker in the market of Kahira; a circumstance which, had it been known to me earlier, would probably have prevented my employing him. Till the moment of departure, I had observed in him keenness but no fraud, and in general that submissive acquiescence and absolute devotion to the will of the superior, for which the lower class of Kahirines are, externally at least, remarkable. The hour of commencing our march, however, seemed with him the signal for disobedience and insulting behaviour; and we were not yet far removed from the confines of Egypt, when this misconduct was carried to such excess, that I once levelled my gun at him with a view of inspiring terror. The merchants around us interfered, and for the time this passed off; but the man only sought an opportunity of revenge, which the prejudices of the people of Soudan, in direct opposition to my former information, too soon afforded him means to gratify.

'The letters with which I was provided for different merchants in this district, under whose roof I might have had a safe lodging, could be of no use to me till I had seen the Sultan; for till then no person knew in what character to receive me. The object of this man, therefore, was to prevent my introduction to the Sultan, and to preclude me from any opportunity of representing my case. We were no sooner arrived at Sweini, than he found means to employ one of his associates, who had been some years established in the place, to go to the monarch, and infuse into his mind

suspicions

suspicions of me as a Frank and an infidel, who came to his country for no good purpose, and whose designs it behoved him to guard against; and to suggest to him that it would not be proper I should remain at large, nor yet immediately come to his presence, but that some person should be commissioned to watch over and report my actions, and thus frustrate my supposed evil intentions. He added, as I afterwards found, many anecdotes, falsified or exaggerated, of the inquiries I had made, the way I had been employed, and my general behaviour on the road.

'Nor was the villain himself idle during the time his coadjutor was thus laudably engaged. I have already mentioned that there were no doors to the apartments of the house we were in. He took advantage of this circumstance to take out of a box, which had been broken on the road, a quantity of red coral, the most valuable article in my package. As the box remained locked, it was not till long after that I discovered this loss. By the help of this commodity he expected to make his way with the great. At the end of a few days this agent returned, bearing a specious letter impressed with the Sultan's seal, ordering that no officer on the road should presume to detain me, or to take any thing from me, till I came to the house of *Ibrahim-el-Wohaishi* (the name of this very agent) in Cobbé, where I was to rest myself till further orders should be given for my admission to his presence. I was not indeed at that time privy to the plot, yet if I could have obtained a knowledge of it, it might not have been easy immediately to counteract its influence: nevertheless I suspected something might have been practised against me.

'An order from the despot, which, while it was to protect me from his officers on the road, obliged me to confine myself to a particular spot, was a matter of surprise to me; but submission was unavoidable, as I was at that time unprovided even with the means of remonstrance. Had the machinations of my adversaries, which went much further than my confinement, having been actually employed against my life, been at that time known to me, this severity would not have caused any astonishment, and the means of redress might have been less doubtful. But suspense filled the void of positive suffering—a suspense to which no apparent remedy suggested itself. Those who had known me in Egypt, or on the road, were dispersed to the east and west, and the people of the place were ill-disposed to form any communication with me, being filled with religious horror of one supposed an infidel, but of yet undefined impiety, and whose colour, variously regarded as the sign of disease, the mark of divine displeasure, or, at least, the unequivocal proof of inferiority of species, had averted their wonted hospitality, closed their compassion, and inflamed their personal pride and religious fury.

'It was in this situation that, seeing no means of immediate relief, I began to feel impatience: which, as I continued in a state of perfect inactivity, communicated the more rapidly its pernicious influence to my state of health. On the fourteenth day after my arrival, I

Was

was attacked with a violent fever, attended with extreme pain in the head. How long it lasted I cannot precisely say, having on the second day lost my recollection. It was afterwards recalled by the effect of a dysentery, which lasted for two days, and left me too weak to assist myself. I had reflection enough to know, that of the aliments there to be procured, scarcely any could be found that would not be pernicious. After the first attack, therefore, I confined myself to the use of bark and water, which last I drank in great quantities.

'A little more than a month had elapsed, when the symptoms appearing to diminish, I again pressed to be permitted to visit the residence of the Sultan. But I had reason to regret my impatience; for having at length obtained leave, I proceeded to El-Fashe only to repeat my suffering. The rainy season was almost at an end, but the air, which still continued insalubrious, fatigue, and anxiety, renewed the malady, which, after extreme abstinence, and having gone through the short catalogue of remedies which I had had the precaution to take with me, I found unabated. Excessive head-achs, lassitude, thirst, occasional constipation, succeeded by extreme irritation of the viscera, continued for several months to shew the inefficacy of my precautions, and to incapacitate me from all personal exertion. At length the heat of the ensuing summer gradually encreasing and producing regular and continued transpiration, and the state of the air, thus meliorated, having removed the cause of indisposition, it was not long before I gained a certain degree of strength.'—P. 191.

Although Mr. Browne did at length obtain admittance to the presence of the Sultan, and had opportunities of stating, both to him and his ministers, the injuries of which he complained, and the views which had led him to *Dar-Fûr*, he was equally unsuccessful in obtaining redress of the former, and the countenance which was necessary for furthering the latter. Insulted with the mockery of justice, amused with promises and counterfeit pretences, shamelessly robbed even by the monarch of the country, and his life continually exposed to the machinations of his enemies, he at length found himself most reluctantly compelled to abandon all his more distant and favourite schemes, and had even reason to congratulate himself, that he had escaped the calamity of spending the remainder of his days within the boundaries of Dar-Fûr.

After a residence of three years, the author at last set out on his return to Egypt. Although during that time he was tortured with perpetual anxiety, and had the miseries of disappointed expectation added to those of bodily suffering, he has in the following chapters of his work sufficiently shewn, that he did not allow the evils of his situation so completely to occupy his mind, as to prevent him from improving those advantages which were permitted him, and obtaining such knowledge as was really in his power. His account of the topography of *Fûr* and of the adjacent kingdoms, and the charts with which he has accompanied it, are high acquisitions in the geographical knowledge of this part of Africa: and we believe most readers will

will feel indebted to him for the particularity with which he has detailed his observations on the natural productions of the country, the various objects of art and of science, the manners, customs, and qualities of the people among whom he lived. For the particular facts and remarks in all these different departments we must refer the reader to the work itself.

The limits we are under the necessity of prescribing to ourselves will not permit us to follow Mr. Browne in his progress through Syria and Asia Minor. Indeed the principal places which he visited have been so often described, and, from a sense of this, he has so much abridged his account of them, that we consider it as very unnecessary for us to use any degree of minuteness on this part of the work. We shall simply give a general idea of the route. Returned to Kahira, he went down the Nile to Damiatt: he thence took ship, went by sea to Yaffè, and visited Rama, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Naplosa, Nazareth, and Mount Tabor: he next proceeded to Acrè or Acca, the White Promontory, Tyre corruptly called Sûr, Scidè anciently Sidon, Kisrawan and Mount Libanus, Antûra, Tripoli, Ladabia, Aleppo or *Haleb:* from Aleppo he made a journey to Antioch and ancient Seleucia, and another to Damascus, his account of which occupies the 25th chapter: returned once more to Aleppo, he set out for Constantinople, and, having passed Mount Taurus, reached successively Bostân, Kaisarîa, Angora, Ismît or Nikmid, and thence proceeded by Scutari to the capital of the Turkish empire, where he arrived on the 9th of December, 1797. He passed thro' Wallachia, by Vienna and Berlin, to Hamburgh; and finished his travels at London on the 16th of September, 1798, after an absence of nearly seven years.

We have now gone through the whole of this work, except the last chapter; and have found little or nothing that calls for censure. We may venture to recommend it as useful and interesting: we have given our opinion, that the discoveries are highly valuable; and we are certainly entitled and bound to add, that the author has shewn himself to be as perfectly qualified for such undertakings, as a very liberal education, a great knowledge of languages, and the most undaunted resolution, may be expected to render any traveller. But, arrived at the 29th and concluding chapter, we feel ourselves compelled to assume a different language. The comparative view here given of life and happiness in the East and in Europe, is surely very unnecessarily subjoined to the Travels which we have been considering; and we own we have seldom met with a greater perversion of plain facts and common sense and reason, than in the argument which is substantially maintained in it. We do not know what may be Mr. Browne's general opinions, though from some passages of his book we must suspect them not to be of the strictest order: he has hardly obtruded them on the public, and it belongs not to us to invent a system for him. But we certainly think, that that man's imagination must be greatly diseased, who could seriously believe and write the comparison alluded to. The author,

though he professes to draw no conclusion, in substance gives a decided preference to the manners of the Orientals or Mohammedans. We cannot now go through the argument; not that we wish to make its absurdity our excuse for declining to examine it: our limits restrain us; and we shall, therefore, only submit some observations to Mr. Browne's attention. If the indolence and insensibility of the people of the East are preferable to the activity of mind and body which distinguishes Europeans, what was it that led Mr. Browne to encounter so much danger and hardship in the deserts of Africa, when he might have been reclining in sullen indifference in England or in Turkey, indulging his contemplations and stifling his sensibilities? It certainly was the pleasure of being active: and tho' he had indeed to indure both real suffering and the disappointment of his greatest views, will he now venture to say that his exertions have not rendered his life happier upon the whole? —Again, if happiness depends greatly on education, and *if* education should be the art of forming man on the principles of nature, might he not consider, whether activity is not a natural principle of the human mind—how far it is natural for one half of the species to pass their lives in splendid imprisonment, or for one man to appropriate to himself a multitude of women—whether, on the contrary, all nature does not proclaim the fitness of the attachment of one man to one woman*—whether it is according to nature that a great body of mankind should be the devoted slaves of the convenience, the confort, the pleasures, of others—whether, in short, the system of education, the system of government, the system of religion, the system of living, established in Mohammedan countries, are not all alike the grossest violations of every thing that nature has dictated?—If he can for a moment compare the chaste enjoyments of connubial and domestic life in Europe with that mixture of sensuality and indifference which prevails in the East, we cannot wonder that he should so pervert even his own ideas as to overlook these obvious considerations. When he balances the miseries which occasional infidelities produce against the pleasures which spring from more fortunate unions, and the licentiousness of our great cities against the better fruits of our system elsewhere; why does he forget the horrible catastrophes which never fail to follow the discovery of similar transgressions in the *harem?* Why does he not mention the blood-thirsty and contracted spirit which Mohammedans *necessarily* imbibe from their religion, their education, and their habits? But, indeed, he has begun with taking it for granted that the Orientals are happy and virtuous, while his own adventures before detailed are a sufficient testimony of their real character. As to our ceremonials of politeness; for our part, far from thinking them useless or cumbersome, we esteem them as one great advantage which the moderns enjoy over the an-

* See Kaimes's ingenious argument in his Sketches of the History of Man.

cients;

cients: we think they contribute essentially to the peace and order of society. To conclude, when Mr. Browne brings himself to set down the frequency of sudden death, by pestilence, famine, and tyranny, as an advantage in favour of the Orientals, by reconciling them to the thoughts of it, we are sure he has not reflected that he uses an argument for the introduction of murder and devastation into every country which, according to him, enjoys the misfortune of security.

Esteeming highly as we do the other parts of this work, we sincerely regret that this most absurd chapter should have gained a place in it.

Mr. Browne has apologized in his preface for imperfections of style, and we therefore do not criticise it too rigidly. It is in general sufficiently clear, and sometimes even elegant. But certainly there are a good many inaccuracies, and a few affected expressions—such as *Œillades*, *cöitaneous*, &c.

On the whole, we hope we have enabled our readers to form a just idea of this publication, which has excited no small share of interest in the British public.

The German Theatre, inscribed by Permission to her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, and translated by Benjamin Thompson, Esq. No. 1. The Stranger, a Play in five Acts, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury-Lane: from the German of Augustus Von Kotzebue. 12*mo.* 1*s.* 6*d. Vernor and Hood, and Grisweiler.* 1800.

TO those who have been accustomed to consider the state of the Drama in the different countries of Europe, to investigate its origin, and carefully to mark its progress, the present flourishing state of the German stage must afford a curious and interesting source of observation. It has unexpectedly risen into distinction and popularity, not that it has been involved in obscurity, for its existence is of a more recent date than that of any other national theatre; but because it abounded with the fewest productions of original genius in the fiction and invention of action, character, and sentiment. To the bards of ancient Germany succeeded the master-singers, more ignorant, but more ridiculously entertaining than their predecessors; then followed the extempore-writers, who drew their subjects from sacred and profane history without plot, without connexion, and almost without interest, except that kind of interest which is produced in the vulgar mind from an admiration of the marvellous and incredible, or a fondness for what is coarse and obscene. The wretched and insipid rhapsodies of the principal author in this motley species of composition, *Hansach*, the shoemaker, who was a conjuror in romance, and a farcer in holy writ, were at length consigned to oblivion, by the diffusion of better taste, and the gradual

refinement of manners. Models of dramas more finished both in tragedy and comedy were first introduced at Hamburgh; and a Dutch company of players had the honour of purifying the German stage, about the year 1630, of many of the barbarous inconsistencies and scandalous impurities with which it was disgraced. The candidates for scenic fame became numerous, and they began to attend to the construction of the plot, to observe rules, and to write in a correct style. *Opitz*, *Gryphius*, and *Lohenstein*, were the first who succeeded in composing works that possessed a regular fable, interesting incident, and characteristic language. *Gottshed*, though inferior in genius to Gryphius, who was called the Corneille of Germany, materially assisted in the improvement of theatrical performance by his classical erudition, and his knowledge of the ancient and modern drama. There still, however, remained a deep chasm between the stage of Germany and that of other nations, which it was thought would not be soon filled up. In vain were translations produced from the French, the Spanish, the Italian, and the English, and adapted to the manners and dispositions of the inhabitants. In vain did several excellent performers fascinate the public mind. There was scarcely a native who had travelled that did not prefer the drama of foreign countries to that of his own. At length a SCHILLER, a LESSING, an IFFLAND, a GOETHE, a KOTZEBUE, and some others, appeared, and the dramatic writers of Germany have suddenly become the admiration and delight of Europe.

To this latter class of authors the present work relates, which is to convey to the mind of the English reader a correct idea of the state of the German Theatre. That such a work has been wanted, every person will readily confess, who has had occasion to observe the late multifarious translations from the German, and to collate with attention the various versions of the same plays which have been published: some, indeed, correct in language, but misrepresenting the sense; some expressing with fidelity the meaning, but destitute of purity of style; and others, perhaps more numerous than either of these, at once miserably defective both in thought and expression. Since such is the situation to which we are reduced, with respect to the means of acquiring a knowledge of a Drama which has attained the greatest popularity in Great Britain and on the Continent, the design of supplying the man of letters and the *amateur* of theatrical performances with a regular series of pieces, translated by *one* person of approved talents and in every respect equal to the task, cannot be too highly praised, nor too generally encouraged. Whatever may be the merits of the originals, the execution of the work will enable the public to appreciate the productions of writers who rival, at least in *temporary* favour and *popular* applause, on the French and English stages, a *Corneille*, a *Racine*, and a *Voltaire*, a *Shakspeare*, an *Otway*, and a *Rowe*.

Before we enter into an examination of the *Stranger*, which forms the first number of the work, it certainly will not be thought improper, when the nature of an undertaking intended to comprehend the

the beauties of a foreign stage is considered, to make some preliminary remarks on the Drama of Germany. It is not, generally speaking, possessed of a *beginning*, a *middle*, and an *end*; or does not consist of *a whole* having *exact* and corresponding *parts*: it has not, like the tragedy of the Greeks, that simplicity of taste which selected one plain and noble object, and suffered nothing to interfere in or to impede its progress; it is not, like the dramatic composition of the French, remarkable for regularity of conduct, correctness of thought and expression, a delicate imitation of living manners and sparkling effusions of wit; it is not, like that of England in modern times, chiefly dependent upon multiplicity of incident, and a forced variety of complicated business. It may be justly censured for many deviations from probability, for grossness of idea, vulgarity of humour, and an occasional want of natural connexion. Critics may even be justified in maintaining that it does not furnish *one perfect* comedy or tragedy. But, with all its faults which may be thus exposed, it possesses an irresistible controul over the feelings, finds a direct way to the source of sympathy, nicely discriminates between false terror and real pity, subjects the mind to the empire of the heart, and excites emotions which we know to be true because we find ourselves unable to withstand them. It is what must please in every language; for the passions which it imitates are the work of nature, and nature is every where the same. Would it be too much to say, that to the zealous admirers of Shakspeare belongs the peculiar province of deciding with impartiality on the merits of the German Drama?—He, who looks with enthusiastic veneration to the wondrous productions of our immortal bard, cannot view with indifference the writings of Schiller and Kotzebue. We might perhaps be justified in asserting, that to Shakspeare the dramatic authors of Germany are, in no inconsiderable degree, indebted for their success and celebrity. Many proofs might be advanced of the advantages which they have derived from the perusal of his plays; but, though we cannot apply to them what has been said of Terence,

> "Quæ convenere in Andriam ex Perinthiâ,
> Fatetur transtulisse, atque usum pro suis,"

it is no difficult matter to discover that they have minutely studied his beauties, and sometimes usurped his thoughts.

The Stranger has been judiciously selected to commence the German Theatre, as it is the first play under that head which was represented on the British stage, and led, by the brilliant success which attended the performance, to the distinguished rank at present enjoyed by the acting drama of Germany in this country.

The outline of the plot is traced in a short sketch:—The Stranger, deprived of half his fortune by the perfidy of one friend, and of his wife by the treacherous seductions of another, is a professed misanthrope, tho', with a heart alive to every tender and generous sensation, he takes delight in the constant exercise of benevolence. He retires to a life of obscurity, in which his chief consolation is to ruminate on his unmerited misfortunes, and to superintend the education

of his children, who are brought up in a village near his retreat. He and his wife, who, seduced in an unguarded moment, feels the sincerest contrition for her misconduct, are still dear to each other by the purest sentiments of affection. She has passed three years of seclusion from the world in all the misery of self-reproach and the keenest anguish for her guilt. They meet by accident and fly from the presence of each other. An interview is at length effected; and the Stranger, impressed with the full conviction of the sincerity of his wife's repentance, pardons her, while the sense of her misconduct is but encreased by the generosity of her husband. They are about to part for ever, when their two children are unexpectedly introduced, and, every scruple being banished by a circumstance so affecting, a complete reconciliation takes place while the children cling round their parents.

The Stranger is more naturally conducted than any of Kotzebue's plays which have hitherto been translated. The fable is simple, and its progress becomes gradually interesting by a skilful succession of events that conduct us with probability to the conclusion. We are not, as in some plays of the same author, diverted from the great end by the introduction of incidents that have no relation to the plot; there is in the execution of the grand design a connexion and suitability of every thing congenial; all the subordinate thoughts appear to be derived from the primary source of action—the infidelity of the wife. Objections have certainly been made to the morality of the piece. The penitence of Mrs. Haller has not been thought a sufficient plea for forgiveness and reconciliation. The rigid stoic, who having committed a crime indignantly spurns at consolation, or who having been offended rejects the suit of a contrite heart; he, with whom justice is every thing, and the tender endearments of humanity, and the godlike attribute of mercy, are nothing; may persevere in that opinion. But the repentance of Mrs. Haller is complete; she is more conscious of her unworthiness than even her husband; she expiates her crime by every possible sacrifice; the abhorrence of her breach of matrimonial love is encreased, not weakened, by her husband's kindness; the body is purified by the workings of the heart, and a confirmed detestation of the violation of conjugal love, which forms the moral of the play, is irresistibly impressed upon the audience.

But, though the noble sentiment and natural passion displayed in the serious and pathetic scenes are of the most edifying and affecting nature, it must be observed that in many scenes of the light and comic the attempts at wit and humour are frequently unsuccessful.

To give a striking proof of the genius of a writer whose powers in moving the passions find an immediate way to the deepest recesses of the heart, it will be sufficient to select the celebrated scene in which the Stranger and his wife are reconciled.

Enter

'*Enter* Mrs. HALLER, COUNTESS, and BARON.

'*Mrs. H.*—(*Advances slowly, and in a tremor.* Countess *attempts to support her.*)—Leave me now, I beseech you. (*Approaches* Stranger, *who, with averted countenance, and in extreme agitation, awaits her address.*)—My Lord!

'*Stra.*—(*With gentle tremulous utterance, and face still turned away.*)—What would you with me, Adelaide?

'*Mrs. H.*—(*Much agitated.*)—No—for heaven's sake! I was not prepared for this. Oh! that tone cuts to my heart. Adelaide! No. For heaven's sake. Harsh tones alone are suited to a culprit's ear.

'*Stra.*—(*Endeavouring to give his voice firmness.*)—Well, Madam!

'*Mrs. H.* Oh! if you will ease my heart, if you will spare and pity me, use reproaches.

'*Stra.* Reproaches! Here they are upon my sallow cheek—here in my hollow eye—here in my faded form. These reproaches I could not spare you.

'*Mrs. H.* Were I a hardened sinner, this forbearance would be charity: but I am a suffering penitent, and it overpowers me. Alas! then I must be the herald of my own shame. For, where shall I find peace, till I have eased my soul by my confession?

'*Stra.* No confession, Madam. I release you from every humiliation. I perceive you feel that we must part for ever.

'*Mrs. H.* I know it. Nor come I here to supplicate your pardon: nor has my heart contained a ray of hope that you would grant it. All I dare ask, is, that you will not curse my memory.

'*Stra.*—(*Moved.*)—No, Adelaide, I do not curse you. No, I shall never curse you.

'*Mrs. H.*—(*Agitated.*)—From the inward conviction that I am unworthy of your name, I have, during three years, abandoned it. But this is not enough; you must have that redress which will enable you to chuse another—another wife, in whose untainted arms may heav'n protect your hours in bliss! This paper will be necessary for the purpose: it contains a written acknowledgment of my guilt.—(*Offers it trembling.*)

'*Stra.*—(*Tearing it.*)—Perish the record for ever. No, Adelaide, you only have possessed my heart; and, without shame, I confess it, you alone will reign there for ever. Your own sensations of virtue, your resolute honour, forbid you to profit by my weakness; and even if—Now, by heaven, this is beneath a man! But—never—never will another fill Adelaide's place here.

'*Mrs. H.*—(*Trembling.*)—Then nothing now remains but that one sad, hard, just word—farewell.

'*Stra.* A moment stay. For some months we have, without knowing it, lived near each other. I have learnt much good of you. You have a heart open to the wants of your fellow creatures. I am happy that it is so. You shall not be without the power of gratifying your benevolence. I know you have a spirit that must shrink from a state of obligation. This paper, to which the whole remnant of my fortune is pledged, secures you independence, Adelaide; and let the only recommendation of the gift be, that it will administer to you the means of indulging in charity, the divine propensity of your nature.

'*Mrs. H.* Never! By the labour of my hands must I earn my sustenance. A morsel of bread, moistened with the tear of penitence, will suffice my wishes, and exceed my merits. It would be an additional reproach to think that I served myself, or even others, from the bounty of him whom I had so basely injured.

'*Stra.* Take it, Madam: take it.

'*Mrs. H.* I have deserved this. But, I throw myself upon your generosity. Have compassion on me!

'*Stra.*—(*Aside.*)—Villain! of what a woman hast thou robbed me!—(*Puts up the paper.*)—Well, Madam, I respect your sentiments, and withdraw my request; but on this one condition, that if you ever should be in want of any thing, I shall be the first and only person in the world to whom you will make application.

'*Mrs. H.*

'*Mrs. H.* I promise it, my Lord.

'*Stra.* And now I may at least desire you to take back what is your own—your jewels.—(*Gives her the casket.*)

'*Mrs. H.*—(*Opens it in violent agitation, and her tears burst upon it.*)—How well do I recollect the sweet evening when you gave me these! That evening, my father joined our hands; and joyfully I pronounced the oath of eternal fidelity.—It is broken. This locket you gave me on my birth-day—'tis five years since. That was a happy day! We had a country feast—How cheerful we all were! This bracelet I received after my William was born! No! I cannot keep these, unless you wish that the sight of them should be an incessant reproach to my almost broken heart.—(*Gives them back.*)

'*Stra.*—(*Aside.*)—I must go. My soul and pride will hold no longer.—(*Turning towards her.*)—Farewell!

'*Mrs. H.* Oh! but one minute more! An answer to but one more question.—Feel for a mother's heart! Are my children still alive?

'*Stra.* They are alive.

'*Mrs. H.* And well?

'*Stra.* They are well.

'*Mrs. H.* God be praised! William must be much grown?

'*Stra.* I believe so.

'*Mrs. H.* What! Have *you* not seen them!—And little Amelia, is she still your favourite?—(*The* Stranger, *who is in violent agitation throughout this scene, remains in silent contention between honour and affection.*)—Oh! if you knew how my heart has hung upon them for these three long dreadful years—how I have sat at evening twilight, first fancying William, then Amelia, on my lap!—Oh! allow me to behold them once again—let me once more kiss the features of their father in his babes, and I will kneel to you, and part with them for ever.

'*Stra.* Willingly, Adelaide! This very night. I expect the children every minute. They have been brought up near this spot. I have already sent my servant for them. He might before this time have returned. I pledge my word to send them to the castle as soon as they arrive. There, if you please, they may remain 'till day-break to-morrow. Then they must go with me.—(*A pause.*)

'[*The* Countess *and* Baron, *who at a little distance have listened to the whole conversation with the warmest sympathy, exchange signals.* Baron *goes into the hut, and soon returns with* Francis *and the* Children. *He gives the* Boy *to the* Countess, *who places herself behind* Mrs. Haller. *He himself walks with the* Girl *behind the* Stranger.]

'*Mrs. H.* In this world, then—we have no more to say. (*Summoning all her resolution.*)—Farewell!—(*Seizing his hand.*)—Forget a wretch, who never will forget you.—(*Kneels.*)—Let me press this hand once more to my lips—this hand, which once was mine.

'*Stra.*—(*Raising her.*)—No humiliation, Adelaide!—(*Shakes her hand.*)—Farewell!

'*Mrs. H.* A last farewell!

'*Stra.* The last.

'*Mrs. H.* And when my penance shall have broken my heart, when we again meet, in a better world—

'*Stra.* There, Adelaide, you may be mine again.

'[*Their hands lie in each other; their eyes mournfully meet each other; they stammer another* "Farewell!" *and part; but as they are going, she encounters the* Boy, *and he the* Girl.

'*Children.* Dear father!—Dear mother!

'[*They press the children in their arms with speechless affection; then tear themselves away—gaze at each other—spread their arms, and rush into an embrace. The children run, and cling round their parents. The curtain falls.*]'

It has been justly observed that the popularity of the German authors has conduced to form an æra in our dramatic history, and, however men of learning and taste may differ with respect to the merits

merits of their productions, the present plan, which has so auspiciously commenced, will in every point of view enable the public to entertain an accurate opinion on a subject of national importance, and remarkable for novelty and interest.

It would have been difficult to have selected a gentleman equally qualified with Mr. Thompson for the task which he has undertaken. His versions of the *Virgin of the Sun*, the *Happy Family*, *La Pérouse*, &c. &c. have been sanctioned by the approbation of the best judges; and his translation of the *Stranger*, which is now published for the first time, is distinguished for a faithful adherence to the sense and spirit of the original, and purity and elegance of diction.

The work is printed on excellent paper, and a handsome bourgeois type. Each number is to be adorn'd with a plate representing the most interesting scene, designed by Burney, Stothard, and Thurston, and engraved by Bartolozzi, Heath, Rainbach, Neagle, and Bromley. The plate, prefixed to the Stranger, represents the affecting scene between the Stranger, his wife, and children, immediately before the reconciliation, and is finished in a masterly style.

Athenian Letters. A new Edition; to which is prefixed a Geographical Index. In 2 Vols. Illustrated with Engravings and a Map of Antient Greece. 4*to. pp.* 894. (*Exclusively of the Advertisement, Prefaces, and Indexes.*) *Cadell and Davies.* 1798.

ALTHOUGH the publication of these volumes be anterior to our Review, we owe some notice of them to the public and to ourselves. We have already spoken of the TRAVELS of ANTENOR; and this production of our own country merits, from its agreeableness, its utility, the singularity of the circumstances which attended it, and in general the great merit it has, in style, sentiment, selection, and historic delineation, the attention of the friends of literature and of public virtue.

As the mask which slightly veiled it, and was designed rather as modest ornament and graceful recommendation than as deceptive, is now wholly withdrawn, we have abridg'd part of the title-page.

The form given to these pleasing and instructive essays is that of a suppos'd correspondence of CLEANDER, an agent of the King of PERSIA, residing at ATHENS during the PELOPONNESIAN WAR, address'd to different persons of Persia and of the several states of Greece, either eminent by their learning and talents in private life, or occupying with like personal advantages distinguish'd stations civil or military. It is evident that the era chosen, the countries to which it relates, the persons between whom the correspondence is represented to be, all give an extraordinary scope and variety of subject.

The field, ample as it is, has been well fill'd.

The authors of this very ingenious correspondence were twelve: of whom two were of the HARDWICKE family;— the Hon. PHILIP YORKE

YORKE and Mr. CHARLES YORKE. The ten who were associated in those labours were, Dr. GREEN, late Bishop of LINCOLN; Dr. ROOKE, Master of Christ College, Cambridge; DANIEL WRAY, Esq. the Rev. Mr. HEATON, of Bennet College; Dr. HEBERDEN; HENRY COVENTRY, Esq. author of the Letters of Philemon to Hydaspes; Mrs. CATHERINE TALBOT; the Rev. Dr. BIRCH, biographer of MILTON; the Rev. Mr. LAWRY, prebendary of Rochester; and the Rev. Dr. SALTER, late master of the Charter House. The letters are 281 in number.

The *Peloponnesian* war began in the second year of the 87th OLYMPIAD *, the 323d of ROME, 429 before CHRIST. It lasted 26 years; and ended with the defeat of the *Athenians* by their *Lacedæmonian* rivals in the sea-fight of *Ægospotamos*, in which LYSANDER commanded the SPARTAN fleet. This took place in the fourth year of the 93d Olymp. the 349th of ROME, and the 403d before CHRIST. The consequence of this defeat was the surrender of the *city* of *Athens* to the victor; the demolition of her *walls*, the destruction of her CONSTITUTION and power. But it was not less fatal to the *Spartan* manners and polity. ATHENS in some measure reviv'd under CONON; though previously to this defeat her strength and estimation had already sunk by the fate of her disastrous enterprize against SICILY: but SPARTA became a prey to voluptuousness, ambition, and corruption of every kind. And she soon in her turn suffer'd a dreadful shock from the suddenly rising genius and virtue of the long despis'd THEBAN republic; the fame and fortune of which however nearly had its rise and setting with the short but illustrious life of EPAMINONDAS; the example of all the talents, all the amiable qualities, all the pure and glorious energies, which grace and exalt our nature.

The *last* military transaction of much importance to which these letters extend, is the *second* of two great *naval* victories obtain'd by the *Athenians* over the *Lacedæmonians*. This was in the third year of the 92d *Olymp.* and consequently five years before the end of the *Peloponnesian* war. The *Lacedæmonians* thus vanquish'd entreated peace: and ATHENS and all GREECE might have flourish'd, if the desire of annihilating a rival state had not prevail'd over all wise and moderate councils.

It is evident, if mankind could profit as yet by the examples of past ages, or even the experience, yet more awful and on a more astonishing scale, of the present, that the rage of conquest would be banish'd from the earth.

But whether any examples or experience be to profit in the present hour for rescuing EUROPE and a great portion of the rest of the habitable globe from the horrors of continued war and of new desolation hourly, these letters will, in other respects, have many and great

* This celebration recurr'd at the close of every *fourth* year, though by a slip of memory even the very learned OVID confounds it with the *Roman Lustrum* of five years; calling it *quinquennis Olympias*.

points

points of utility combine with the pleasure which must accompany the perusal of them. They abound in sentiments of rational and exalted piety; philosophy and civil wisdom; benevolence and a generous love of freedom. It is very pleasing to reflect that of some who were thus employ'd such were the rudiments by which they prepar'd themselves in youth for the service of their country, and qualified themselves by the contemplation of antient wisdom and virtue, to fill with honour stations of high dignity and trust. They came thus, matur'd in sentiment, and the anticipated experience deriv'd from past ages, into the public service. It were to be wish'd that all statesmen, of our own and other countries, had previously fitted themselves to be such by similar and early researches into the accumulated wisdom of ages.

The preface to the first 8vo. edition by BETTENHAM, in 1741, has been very properly retain'd in this edition.

There the collection is represented as a translation from a MS. in the ancient Persic, found by a learned Jew at the library of *Fez*, in *Morocco*—That the discoverer died in 1698; and left his papers to the English consul at *Tunis*, who was surpris'd on examining them to find a fair Spanish MS. entitled "*Letters from an Agent of the King of Persia, residing at Athens during the Peloponnesian war: translated by* MOSES BEN MESHOBAB *from a manuscript in the old Persic language preserv'd in the library at Fez*"—That he communicated his discovery to two or three friends in England, and had intended to publish; but was prevented by other avocations, and eventually by death—That he left the papers as a legacy to the editor, who translated them into English; thinking that it would be an act of the highest injustice to withhold them any longer from the public view—That he chooses, indeed, to conceal his name; which he hopes the candid reader will forgive; since not done with a design of imposing more safely upon the world, but in order to decline with honour the disagreeable wranglings of controversy.

It is obvious, that this slight way of detailing the suppos'd discovery is like the advertisement to the CASTLE of OTRANTO, or the introduction to some fine *allegorical* papers, in the *oriental* style, in the SPECTATOR;—little more than an invitation to the reader to yield to an ingenious and agreeable fiction, and to give it that interest in his mind which arises from a temporary concession of the reality of its pretensions to simple fact.

The agent concern'd in these Letters is then represented as having been singularly fitted for his employment; as possessing a mind enrich'd by general conversation with men and books, and furnish'd with every qualification requir'd even by modern writers on the subject of foreign negotiation. This is follow'd by an ironical encomium on the modern improvements in the diplomatic art; for that the simplicity of the antients, in all their contests with their neighbours, led them into the strange absurdity of *settling* ambiguities instead of leaving them; it was the constant rule of their policy not to play with the rights of nations, but to state and to clear them.

There is subjoin'd a commendation, and a most just one, on the importance of the subject of these Letters; and a remark how well the facts stated confirm the testimony of THUCYDIDES, while at the same time the detail of correspondence gives a more adequate notion of the *customs* of the GREEKS and PERSIANS, and of *living manners*, than could have been gather'd from the most formal and elaborate treatises of grave antiquaries. Not to mention several particulars of court-subtilty, perhaps beneath the notice of an historian, yet of wonderful effect in unravelling the true causes of action.

As to the *chronological* objections to the authenticity of the Epistles of PHALARIS and THEMISTOCLES, this first preface observes that it is conceiv'd that neither from these grounds nor from the *matter* of the epistles any such can lie against this collection. And it is humorously added, that ATOSSA*, the first inventress of letter-writing in the opinion of the great critic†, having been several years dead before CLEANDER made his appearance on the theatre of human affairs, the correspondence is therefore not too early to be credible on that account.

The suppos'd translator concludes by congratulating the literary world (*au ton demi-serieux*) on the discovery of this hidden treasure of antiquity, which may be consider'd as a large accession to the wealth it already stands possess'd of; and to congratulate himself on being the unworthy instrument, after an interval of so many ages, of presenting these inestimable relics to the public.

The first preface appears by the signature to have been by Mr. CHARLES YORKE.

The SECOND preface opens with an agreeable allusion:—that the masquerade, in which the persons concern'd in these Letters had appear'd for a time, being now clos'd, the fancy dresses and dominos are return'd to their respective wardrobes, the company walk about again in their proper habits, and return to their ordinary occupations in life.

That in fact the authors of these Letters were a society of friends; contemporaries at the university of CAMBRIDGE, about the years 1739 and 1740; all their names, the author of this preface subjoins, except his own, were an ornament to the place. The public are aware that there is no ground for this exception. He pathetically adds, 'The world was unfortunately depriv'd of the talents, virtues, and services of one of them, when they were most wanted, both by his own profession and by the public: not above two or three of the set are now living; they lament the loss of their colleagues, and cultivate the remembrance of their former friendly connection.'

The writer of this second preface refers to the judgment of the learned, how far the manners of antiquity are correctly kept up; and how truly the history of those times is represented in these Letters.

* Whimsically enough: as this would refer the origin of letter-writing, of necessity, nearly as old as alphabets, to so late a period as about 490 before CHR.

† BENTLEY.

He

He then states that the GRECIAN part of the correspondence is exactly taken from THUCYDIDES and PLUTARCH; the PERSIAN extended and improv'd from the fragments of CTESIAS, but that it is hoped the *costume* of the east is kept up throughout, and the events such as might happen under a well-govern'd monarchy, the picture of which is more flattering (we imagine, more flatteringly drawn in the Letters) than experience commonly justifies.

He continues to notice, that the general character of CLEANDER, is taken from MAHMUT, the *Turkish Spy*; but that it is finish'd upon the *Greek* model, and the philosophical and literary features copied from the *Schools* of ATHENS, and the *Groves* of ACADEMUS: and that the form and language of the negotiation part of the Letters, which may be thought too refin'd for the times when they are suppos'd to be written, were imitated from the dispatches of those great ministers, TEMPLE and D'ESTRADES.

In this perhaps there is not so much of incongruity as seems to have been apprehended: for whoever reads the LETTERS of PHILIP of MACEDON, which the ORATIONS of DEMOSTHENES have preserv'd to us, will see that neither in purity of style, simplicity and precision, *modern* STATE PAPERS can expect to exceed them; nor, in energy and greatness of manner and sentiment, can many be found which would advantageously compare with them.

HERODOTUS, PAUSANIAS, and STRABO, the author of this latter preface observes, furnish'd the antiquities of EGYPT: and HYDE's *Religio Veterum Persarum*, those which relate to the religious doctrines and worship of PERSIA: and that it is hop'd that this obscure subject has been illustrated with some success, and so as to form an interesting contrast with the GREEK worship and philosophy.

It is observ'd, that perhaps the character of ORSAMES might have been extended, and diversified, and enliven'd: that he might have been brought into *Greece*, to serve as a volunteer in their armies, and improve from the military institutions of *Athens* and *Sparta*: but that it was thought advisable, on the whole, to make no alterations from the original edition; particularly the learned and ingenious writer of those Letters being deceas'd.

Lastly, he notices that not many years back the younger CREBILLON publish'd a work with the very same title—*Lettres Athenienes*; and with some of the same characters, as *Pericles*, *Aspasia*, *Alcibiades*, and *Cheon*; but with a very different turn of character and correspondence. That it is hop'd the characters in these Letters are antique:—that in those they were in a great degree the *petit-maitres* and *petites-maitresses* of *Paris*; and that the improving of the manners and morals of society, does not seem to have been the principal object of the writer of those Letters.

This preface is sign'd H. and is, we presume, by the present *Earl* HARDWICKE.

From another member of the family of YORKE, Lord DOVER, brother of the late Earl and of Mr. CHARLES YORKE, a note in French is annex'd to the second preface, address'd to the *Abbé* BARTHELEMI,

THELEMI, the elegant and learned author of the TRAVELS of ANACHARSIS, presenting to him, as a just tribute, these ATHENIAN LETTERS; apprizing him that the letters sign'd P. were by the elder son of the HIGH CHANCELLOR of GREAT BRITAIN; and those sign'd C. by his brother, who his-self arriv'd at that eminent post, but died too soon for his family and for his country: and that the others were written by their relations and friends. And that in requesting him to accept this small present, the presumption is not indulg'd of comparing it to the delightful Travels of ANACHARSIS: but that it was solely to give a testimony of esteem to the illustrious author; and to shew how flattering it has been to perceive that an idea which has been entertain'd here (in ENGLAND) near fifty years back, has been perfected with so much elegance long after, without any communication, by an author worthy of the subject.

A polite answer from the ABBE is subjoin'd: in which he expresses warmly his approbation and admiration of the work; and says, that had he known of it, he should either not have written his own, or should have endeavour'd to bring it nearer to so fine a model.

Certainly there is much difference in plan, manner, and treatment:—the TRAVELS of ANACHARSIS have, perhaps, more simplicity and continuity of design; more copiousness and exactness of detail, especially in what relates to antient manners and customs.

But these ATHENIAN LETTERS have perhaps more of historic grandeur, more of variety; and, with less of liveliness, not less of interesting force.

Let posterity, to which both will descend with merited celebrity, settle, as it may, this amiable and unenvious competition: a competition, indeed, merely eventual; undesign'd and unforeseen by the authors on either side.

But a short note from the great Lord MANSFIELD to the Earl of HARDWICKE, in *March*, 1783, well merits to be transcrib'd:—

'*My dear Lord*,

'Give me leave to return you my warmest thanks for the ATHENIAN LETTERS.

——"*Veteres revocamus amores,*
Atque olim amissas flemus amicitias."

This affectionate interest express'd by one of the most eloquent of men, by a mind of high cultivation, distinguish'd taste, and acuteness almost unequall'd, is one of the most desirable of testimonies.

It remains for us, after this introductory statement, full, but little capable of abridgement, and nearly in the original words, to make hereafter not indeed an *analysis*, of which the work from its *epistolary* form is not easily capable, but such *extracts* and *observations* as may give some idea of the character, the mode of execution, and the various merit of these highly agreeable and abundantly instructive Letters. L.

Prize

Prize Essays and Transactions of the Highland Society of Scotland. To which is prefixed an Accont of the Institution and Principal Proceedings of that Society. By Henry Mackenzie, Esq. Vol. I. 8vo. *pp.* 522. *Creech, Edinburgh. Cadell and Davies, London.* 1799.

IN 1784 a meeting of gentlemen, natives of the Highlands, or connected with those parts, conceiving that many good consequences would result from the institution of a Highland Society at Edinburgh, determined to communicate their scheme to others, concerning the propriety of the measure. In a numerous assembly it was approved, and a president and vice-president nominated. Circular letters, sent to the more respectable personages in the city and country, inviting them to become members, produced a very general concurrence.

The following regulations, specifying the general objects of the Society, were adopted at a general meeting, Jan. 1785.

'1. An enquiry into the present state of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and the condition of the inhabitants.

'2. Into the means of their improvement, by establishing towns and villages—by facilitating communication through different parts, by roads and bridges—advancing agriculture, and extending fisheries—introducing useful trades and manufactures—and by an exertion to unite the efforts of the proprietors, and call the attention of government towards the encouragement and prosecution of these beneficial purposes.

'3. The Society shall also pay a proper attention to the preservation of the language, poetry, and music of the Highlands.'

Besides these general regulations, others, respecting the constitutional procedure of the association, are expressed in fifteen articles. That it might acquire both stability and effect, a royal charter for establishing the Society as a corporation was asked and granted, of which a copy, dated May, 1787, is inserted in English and Latin, Appendix, p. 57—63.

The premiums for essays on specified subjects in 1789, were divided into seven classes. The subjects are of national utility, and the premiums, whether honorary or in specie, ample. As the annual contribusions by members are so moderate as not to exceed 23½ shillings, we were at a loss to conjecture the resources for remunerating candidates of a firstt and second order, and could rest in no other conclusion than the great number of the members, and the economical fidelity of the managers. A recorder and a clerk have a small salary, but the secretary's services are gratuitous.

The subjects, changed from year to year, bring forward to public notice and investigation an immensity of useful improvements, some of easy operation, others possible, and all desirable. For 1799 the titles of essays are either general or local. Of the former sort is that on PEAT MOSS, considered as a soil, manure, or fuel, in any

any part of the Society's jurisdiction: of the latter, that on the cultivation of waste or barren land is limited to the shires of Perth, Stirling, Angus, and Mearns; and that on the improvement of such land by potatoes extends to the north and west Highland districts.

This regulation, by calling forth the exertion of genius and talents, and introducing discoveries and improvements to a wide extent, is judicious. Of the essays exhibited, and premiums bestowed, in the past years of this institution, we have no account, those only excepted which are printed in this volume; and these we suppose do not exhaust the prescribed subjects of disquisition.

Contents.—An essay on kelp, containing the rise and progress of that manufacture, in the north of Scotland; its present state, and the means of carrying it to a greater extent. By the Rev. Dr. Walker, Professor of Nat. Hist. Edinburgh.

Art of making kelp, and of encreasing the growth of marine plants from which it is made. By Mr. Angus Beaton.

Observations on kelp by Mr. Robert Jameson, Leith.

Means of introducing the linen manufacture into the Highlands of Scotland. By Neil M'Vicar, Aberdeen.

Of spinning linen yarn in Ross, Caithness, &c. By Mr. James Mill, Perthill Factory, Aberdeen.

On inclosing. By Mr. John Wilson, factor to the Earl of Glasgow.

On green crops. By Mr. Patrick Brodie, Garvald, Haddington.

On the peculiar circumstances which make the use of horses almost universally necessary in agricultural operations in the Highland districts:—with an enquiry how far, and with what effects, oxen might be substituted. By Mr. T. Jolly, minister at Dunnet.

On the advantages of watering pasture and meadow grounds in the Highlands. By the Rev. J. Smith, minister of Campbeltown.

Advantages of planting and raising timber in the Hebrides and other parts of the west and north-west coasts. By the same.

On the species of crops best adapted for the Highlands. Idem.

Letter to the Secretary of the Highland Society, on the foregoing subject. By Mr. G. Robertson, of Granton, Edinburgh.

Propriety of burning heath grounds for the improvement of pasture. By Captain Donald Smith, of the 84th regiment.—N. B. By a corrrection we are authorised to read "Author unknown."

Suggestions for promoting and improvement of the fisheries on the coasts and isles. By Mr. John Williams, Gilmerton.

State of the fisheries in the islands of Zelland 1786, by a native.

On the fisheries. By Mr. William Ferguson, shipmaster.

On the same subject. By the Reverend Mr. Bradfute.

Improved method of preparing peat-fuel, communicated by George Dempster, Esq. of Dunichen.

Means of supplying coal and providing fuel for a highland estate, with the smallest loss of time and trouble to the tenants. Author unknown.

Excerpts from an essay on the means of supylying the want of coals,

coals, and of providing fuel for a highland estate with the smallest loss of time and trouble. By J. Williams, Gilmerton.

Remarks on some corruptions, introduced into the pronunciation and orthography of the Gaelic; with proposals for removing them and restoring purity to the language, by Captain Donald Smith, of the 84th regiment,

Letter from a freeholder of Invernesshire to Lord Adam Gordon, 15th March, 1792, on cutting a canal between Inverness and Fort William.

Practicability and advantages of opening a navigation between the Murray Frith and Fort William, by the Reverend James Headrick.

Such are the topics which have occurred, or been suggested, to the consideration of this Society, which, from a superficial view of the register which records the names and designations of its members, appears inferior (in point of talents, rank, property, and influence) to no chartered corporation in the British dominions.

Chimerical were the idea of an attempt to make Caithness and the Orkneys, the Hebrides and Lochaber, equal to Fife and the Lothians, or to the carses of Gowry and Falkirk, in the attributes of climate and soil, surface and populousness. But is nothing to be done for a partial cure of natural inconveniences? Nothing for rendering industry more productive of happiness? Humanity reprobates all the suggestions of a heart petrified with selfish and dissocial passions.

In his paper on the introduction of the linen manufactory into the Highlands, Mr. M'Vicar, p. 52. presages success to the attempt on the following suppositions: That a sufficiency of flax be raised in the country for employing all the hands capable of spinning; and, till this be done, that dressed flax be imported and sold to families at a rate which afford a reasonable allowance for converting it into yarn; that every cottager be accommodated with a spot of ground for producing as much flax as may employ his family in spinning; that persons skilful in the modes of flax-dressing be procured for instructing the inhabitants in the use of the instruments, of which models should be kept at mills, smithies, and shops; that spinning schools be erected in all quarters, and children taught to spin on the two-handed wheel, lately constructed with a simple and elegant improvement; that presents of wheels and reels be liberally bestowed; that frequent and regular markets be established for the sale of the yarn; with many other regulations of primary importance: such as, that the flax be pulled before the seed is fully ripe, and while the stalk is full of oils; that, to prevent the importation of foreign seed, a small part of the field be reserved for ripening the seed, to be sown next spring, on land of a different soil. The writer of this article recollects the usage of a cottager, who, obtaining from the neighbouring tenants in rotation a small spot for that crop, sowed the seed of every past year seventeen seasons in succession, without any perceptible degeneracy in the produce.

In the subsequent essay by Mr. James Mill, p. 62, the subject is prosecuted

prosecuted in a different manner, the facts being derived from observation. It is remarked, that the spinning of linen yarn in Caithness, Sutherland, Ross, and other counties in the Highlands, is the chief employment of the women, that being most lucrative, on account of the present flourishing condition of many branches in the linen manufacture. In 1790 the quantity of yarn spun in Caithness for the manufactures at Aberdeen was 50,000 spindles, at nine-pence for spinning each spindle, and two-pence for agency, the value 2,291l. 13s. 4d. It is noted that the flax whence 10,000 spindles of that whole number were produced had been sent from the shire of Murray. Obvious is the reflection, that, if flax were raised in Caithness, the yarn might be sold to weavers in the county, (if men of this craft were previously instructed, and sufficiently numerous in every parish,) and the green cloth sold at markets, ready for the bleach-field, or to such individuals as now transact the agency-commissions for employing spinners. Thus would an influx of specie, from home-grown materials, enrich the country.

In the Highlands, where the summers are too short for bleaching, were the projected fisheries once established in proper situations, the demands for coarse yarn to be made into nets would furnish employment for many hands.

Mr. Wilson, in his paper *on inclosing*, remarks, that the judicious division of a farm into inclosures is one of the surest and best steps towards good husbandry; that without this primary improvement the profits of a farm are loaded with unavoidable burdens, sufficient to defeat the best advantages of soil and situation; and proceeds to shew in what proportion inclosures are proper and expedient upon Highland farms, under a breeding stock; the kinds of inclosure most advisable; and the best and quickest method of executing them, p. 80.

The subject of the next article, written by Mr. Patrick Brodie, is the raising of green crops, such as potatoes, turnips, beans, and clover, with directions for the choice of ground suitable to the intended crops, its preparation before sowing, and the culture required for each, p. 96.

In an enquiry how far, and with what effects, oxen might be substituted for horses in agricultural operations, the Rev. T. Jolly states one remarkable difference. The horse, however lean, however much reduced, is easily recruited; and, if he get but a handful of corn before he is yoked, will endure moderate labour; whereas the ox is good for nothing, and has neither strength nor spirit, but will lie down whenever he feels the draught; nor is it possible to recruit him, but by the summer's grass. Besides, in severe seasons, horses both keep in better flesh than the black cattle, with the same treatment, and often look tolerably well when the others are dying for want. The principal causes for the almost universal use of horses, in the labours of the farm, are there enumerated; and, from a train of observations on the present condition of the Highland peasants, these inferences are deduced:—

1. Where the rearing of cattle is the great object of a farm, it would be hazardous to substitute oxen. 2. The circumstances which established the use of horses still subsist. 3. While servants' wages are comparatively low, oxen should generally be employed upon corn farms; but this cannot be effected under the existing circumstances. 4. Proprietors must relinquish all services of their tenants' cattle on their mains. 5. All leases of estates, with a right to the services of inferior tenants, should absolutely be abolished. 6. On all corn farms at a distance from a ready market, the greater part of the rent should be paid in victual and the money rent falling due at Martinmas should not be demanded before Candlemas or Whitsunday. Thus the tenant would not be obliged to sell his crop at a disadvantage early in the season. 7. Carriages, of every kind, performed by the tenant, should as much as possible be reduced, and roads made. 8. Proprietors should grant larger possessions, as much as the situation of the tenants will admit; make the farms distinct and commodious; and, for the encouragement and security of the occupiers, give them reasonable leases.

Where the regulations suggested in the last four articles are judiciously adopted, the attention of the tenants, as the author presumes, will soon be turned to its proper object;—the raising of corns upon corn farms, which will infallibly tend to substitute oxen for horses, to a certain degree, where they are not prevented by peculiar circumstances. But where these regulations are not adopted in whole, or in part, it is much to be feared that every attempt to introduce oxen in Highland districts, though evidently for the good of the country, will be abortive.

'Advantages of watering pasturage and meadow grounds in the Highlands.'

Immemorial, and extensively beneficial, has been the practice of conducting water in furrows over arable grounds in the north, and, except in situations where immense beds of subterraneous sands absorb the superinduced streams, no mode of cultivation has been more productive of rich grain. The hint of floating plains from muddy rivers for hay and pasture lands has lately been adopted from a variety of well-conducted experiments in England. In this paper the Reverend Author explains the process, and warmly recommends an improvement so lucrative to the grasier. 'Upon the whole, the advantages of watering are so great and obvious, so well suited to the Highlands, and so easily obtained from the multiplicity and abundance of descending streams, that I have no doubt, if the improvement could once be generally be made known, it would generally be practised. If a few gentlemen were, here and there, to set the example, they would soon be followed by their farmers.' P. 167.

In the next essay, on the advantages of raising timber, the same author expatiates on this subject like a skilful philosopher and a benevolent patriot.

'A great part of the north and west Highlands, and Isles, is so destitute of woods, that it becomes an enquiry of high importance how this defect may most easily and speedily be supplied. Few of

the objects which occupy the attention of the Society more deserve regard. A country or estate void of timber looks naked, feels cold, and is in want, not only of ornament, but of the very necessaries of life; whereas the land which abounds in wood enriches the owner, gives employment to the poor, and beauty, comfort, and convenience to all the lands around it.'

That the soil and climate in the Highlands are not unfavourable to the growth of trees, is evident from the vestiges of the great Caledonian forest, which once covered the highest and bleakest parts, and from the trunks of gigantic pines and oaks still found in peat mosses almost at the tops of the Grampian hills. The practicability of clothing those now dismantled regions with prosperous plantations is farther inferred, nay actually demonstrated, from those natural shrubs and artificial forests now existing in all parts of the inland country where they are preserved. This subject coincides with Mr. Nicol's late volume, 'The Practical Planter'—which with Dr. Smith's Lucubrations we pronounce meritorious of heedful consideration from all the landholders of the united kingdoms.

Of the remaining papers in this publication we must supersede even a partial analysis, reserving, however, a few hints from Captain Donald Smith's little tract on the propriety of burning heath-grounds, at a proper season of the year, for procuring early and rich crops of wholesome and juicy pasture-grass. This author, reasoning both on philosophical principles and the result of experiments, dissuades from the practice of applying the flames to luxuriant heath in the winter months; while the juices are condensed at the roots, which part of the plants, not touched by the fire, will afterward protrude those juices into new stems and branches, and defeat even subsequent trials. But in the warm season fire will destroy root, stem, and branches, all at once. As the laws provide for the safety of young partridge and other game in the hatching season, moor-burning may be deferred to July with as much effect as if performed in the earlier months..

In the more northern counties of England and Scotland, especially, is this operation necessary. A similar expedient, however, for producing early and plentiful pasture on soils where heath never was a nuisance, occurs to Captain Smith.

'I have also seen the farmers burning the coarse grass, called Bent, when it was dry and withered, in spring. They informed me, that the operation of burning rendered the pile smoother and finer, and consequently more pleasant to the cattle. This recals to my remembrance an accident which befel me at a very early period of my life, and which, though unimportant in itself, yet serves to shew the propriety of this latter practice also. It is customary with the sheep farmer in the Highlands to burn briars and thorns, which are apt to entangle his sheep when on the straths, and so to occasion their death, if not timeously [timely] relieved. I was amusing myself with this work, in a dry spring season, in a large park, [inclosure,] covered with withered grass intermixed with fog. The flames

flames seized the grass, and over-ran half an acre before they could be extinguished. Chance presenting the same spot to my view towards the middle of the ensuing summer, I observed that the grass was much longer and better than any where round about. The appearance struck me; but, after a little reflection, I recollected that this was the spot which had been the scene of my former exertions; and I was immediately led to ascribe the effect to the power of the flames.' P. 238.

The author concludes his essay with a caution respecting the proportion of heath-lands to be burnt yearly. In high farms, where snow lies long, a small part should be burnt in one season, and heath of the strongest growth be reserved for the sheep, as a security against the rigours of a Highland winter. But short and stunted heath should be burnt, because snow buries it as soon as the grass.

In this article the constitutional regulations of the Society have attracted a larger proportion of our regard than the volume which announces its establishment, and submits to public inspection the contributions of its correspondents. These, as the first fruits of a generous vintage, we welcome, and rejoice in the prospect that a long train of rich harvests will crown with plenteousness the *ultima Thule* of the British dominions. A miscellaneous collection by different hands not equally trained to literary composition, and in a part of the country remote from the standard of national propriety both of accent and idiom, must be unequal. But we do not find a more stricking dissimilarity, than in that best modern miscellany, the much and deservedly esteemed SPECTATOR. Compared with objects of extensive and permanent utility, precision in phraseology is but a secondary accomplishment.

These objects require the wisest heads to project, and the best hands to effectuate. In the foremost ranks stand a class of British subjects, pre-eminent in hereditary honours, possessed of ample domains, and invested with authority in the degree next to sovereignty, but stripped of those feudatory prerogatives which rendered their ancestors rather awful than amiable. By consenting to be enrolled among the benefactors of the inhabitants of the less fertile spots in this island, they virtually engage to promote, by their property and influence, every scheme for rendering the industry of their dependents productive to themselves and to the British community.

The first idea of this respectable association originated from that order whose depressed condition excited the tenderness of sympathy and the energy of beneficence: humanity is gratified in beholding men of independent fortunes and dignified professions, senators and proficients in science, magistrates and the ministers of religion, mechanics and other plebeians, all conspiring with mutual efforts to surmount the natural disadvantages of local situation.

Inanimate nature is a passive subject, but capable of being moulded by intelligence, operating with a combination of powers into a variety of useful forms. Thus for many valuable purposes have mountains been planted, dug, and perforated; large tracts of marshy

fens converted into corn-fields, and seas united by navigable canals. All the objects hitherto proposed by this enterprising Society have elsewhere been executed, if not without much expence to the undertakers, yet with still greater profit both to themselves and to the public. The Bedford level in the past century, and the recent Forth and Clyde navigation, are experiments worthy of imitation in attempts of a similar nature and tendency.

The Society, by its committees, brings forward overtures for public deliberation, offers premiums for essays on subjects of general utility, and thus prompts the national genius to momentous discoveries. But, sensible that improvements of considerable magnitude could not be undertaken with spirit, or prosecuted with effect, independently on pecuniary aid, the Society procured parliamentary authority for incorporating *a Joint Stock Company* for founding free villages or towns on the coasts of the Highlands and Islands, on such parts especially as were best adapted for fishing stations. For this end the Society subscribed for itself ten shares amounting to 500l. sterling, and promoted the scheme by circulating printed commendatory resolutions, and by warmly recommending the measure to the members; which has been done with much success. From this and other examples of liberality it is evident, that this institution is not a body of public projectors, but of active contributors, for executing complicated plans of general improvement.

As the peasants of every country have neither the skill nor the means of accomplishing beneficial undertakings, and engage, not without reluctance, in schemes yet untried, or tried without immediate success, the gentlemen and nobility in their several districts must be the first to shew what may be done for rendering the condition of their dependents more comfortable. Grievances should be redressed; oppressive services, the relicts of feudal tyranny abolished; a more equitable police introduced; leases of a reasonable length given; and rents advanced in proportion to the gradual increase of lucrative improvements.

If this article seem diffuse, the importance of the subjects, with the constitutional views of this worthy Society, must be our apology. The first fruits of their generous labours encourage the expectation of extensive and permanent benefit to the existing generation, and to a remote posterity.

Annals of the French Revolution; or, a Chronological Account of its principal Events; with a Variety of Anecdotes and Characters hitherto unpublished. By A. F. Bertrand de Moleville, Minister of State. Translated by R. C. Dallas, Esq. from the original Manuscript of the Author, which has never been published. In 4 Vols. 8vo. Cadell and Davies. 1800.

THE subject matter of these Annals has furnished a theme of just and copious reprobation to many writers who have had occasion to allude, even in a remote degree, to the principal events which it embraces; and we should, following their example, be completely authorised in expatiating at length, in terms of horror and indignation, on the impurity of the causes which produced, and the dreadful calamities

mities that attended them. It will be sufficient for us to observe, that the expression 'French revolution' comprehends every folly, every vice, every crime, and forms a catalogue of every thing that is selfish, contemptible, oppressive, detestable, hypocritical, and hideous, which can be traced from the earliest times to the present moment in the history of human iniquity.

A person more competent to give a correct account of the rapid and extraordinary change which was effected, not only in the government, but in the disposition of the French people, could not be easily found than M. Bertrand de Moleville. Filling a distinguished official situation in the service of his unfortunate sovereign, intimately acquainted with the motives by which the court was actuated, an attentive observer of the conduct of the leaders of the popular party, and personally concerned in many public and private transactions of considerable importance, he is peculiarly qualified to be the historian of the events that happened in the commencement of the revolution, to relate circumstantially a variety of interesting anecdotes, and to describe with accuracy the principal characters which are introduced. He offers to the public a narration of facts, authenticated by unquestionable proofs, or supported by the testimony of men of acknowledged honour; and he may truly add—

———"*Quæque ipse miserrima vidi,*
Et quorum pars magna fui."

The author's *private memoirs relative to the last year of the reign of Louis 16th*, published upwards of two years ago, in vindication of that monarch's memory from the atrocious calumnies fabricated by the republican faction, have been admitted as genuine, and tend to guaranty the fidelity of the present volumes. This chronological account, and the memoirs which were principally extracted from it, but are now condensed and improved by the addition of several interesting anecdotes hitherto little known, constitute a complete history of the revolution from its commencement to the death of the king.

M. de Moleville introduces his Annals with a concise, but just review of the different revolutions that have taken place in France since the meeting of the last States-General. The difference of the French revolution from every other is clearly stated, produced as it was, not by any pre-concerted plan to overturn the throne, and place an usurper on it, but by causes opposite in their nature, yet tending to one common end, and by a commixture of weakness, ignorance, negligence, and a multiplicity of errors in the government. All previous revolutions were at an end when the removal of the supreme power was effected, and the overthrow of the former government was followed by the establishment of another, adequate to the preservation of tranquillity at home, and the maintenance of connections or the exercise of hostilities abroad. Whether more or less despotic, it was, however, absolute and settled. That of France, equally capable of vigorous operations in war, generated a series of revolutions, in each of which, though the supreme power was completely superseded, the change has not been followed by any thing like

like a settled government. Having given a rapid sketch of the characteristic features of the five successive revolutions, by which his unhappy country has been deluged with blood and tainted with crimes, the author, inspired with a prophetic spirit of the recent usurpation of the *consulate*, observes—'The public power becomes more concentrated, and it is at present perhaps more concentrated than ever it was. It is now no longer to be wrested from the popular societies, from the departments, from the municipalities, or even from the legislative body; it is altogether in the hands of the Directory; and *from them it will be torn by the same means which they employed to seize upon it.*'

M. de Moleville begins his Annals with a series of striking observations respecting the gradual decline of the French monarchy, from the death of Louis 14th, in authority, influence, and financial resources, and from incapacity or neglect, occasioned by the predominance of interest and intrigue in the appointment of persons to the chief employments of the state. It appears that the energy of the executive power was first weakened in 1750, when, a tax of a twentieth part being laid upon all income without distinction, an exemption was admitted in favour of the clergy and the provincial states, in consequence of their earnest remonstrances. Government was also injured by the futility and fluctuation of its decisions in the religious litigations which arose between the ecclesiastical order and the parliaments. Another power, more dreadful than a military force, and fatal in its consequences, was soon after set up by the pseudo-philosophers, which, under the name of public opinion, alternately assailed the altar and the throne, morality and subordination. Whatever was wanting to prepare the approaching explosion was supplied by the American war, which introduced undefined principles of liberty and independence, and the general ferment was increased by the unskilful management of M. Necker, and the ministers who succeeded him, in augmenting the *deficit*. Such is the outline which the author has drawn of the critical situation of the state, when Louis the 16th resolved to convoke the States-General, and from that period commences his narration of public events. That all his statements are correct we readily admit. The one which relates to the *soi-disant* philanthropists, and the sect of modern philosophers, is particularly so: a sect which, under the appearance of reform, disguised their real object—*destruction*;—a sect which wished to tear up every thing by the roots, but had nothing ready to plant in its room; a sect which was desirous to level every social institution, but was destitute of the necessary materials to erect a better! It would certainly be a very arduous, perhaps an impossible task, to defend the excellence of the ancient system. But those who destroy should not be without the means of creating. To point out the defects of a government, requires no great penetration; for *negative* truths are within the scope of the most common intellect; but to find *positive* arguments in support of that which may supersede it, does not fall to the lot of many. But coinciding, as we do, in the statements of our annalist, he appears to have omitted others

which

which have had considerable influence in producing the revolution. He has not noticed the relaxed state of morality among the privileged orders, the ardent desire for novelty which urges the mass of every people, and the remembrance of past monarchical oppression.

The proceedings of the States-General, and the successful efforts of the *Tiers-Etat*, are detailed with singular accuracy. In his account of all public transactions the author is minutely correct, and the authenticity of his documents cannot be questioned. The formation of the National Assembly; the arts used by the leading members to acquire popularity; the dismission of M. Necker; the imprudence, to call the conduct of that minister by no worse a name, manifested in his administration; the tumults and insurrections at Paris, and in the environs of that metropolis; the disorderly proceedings of the different clubs; the timid and mistaken policy of the court; the intrigues employed to corrupt the army; the alarms propagated to inspire the King with terror and mistrust; and the plunder and assassinations committed by the Parisian mob; are related with all the energetic simplicity that characterises truth. But it is in the delineation of the characters of those who particularly distinguished themselves at the commencement of the revolution, and in the anecdotes respecting them, that the interest of the publication chiefly consists. The pictures which are given of the villany and cowardice of *Orleans*, of the eloquence and effrontery of *Mirabeau*, of the craft and duplicity of *Sieyes*, of the inability and procrastination of *La Fayette*, and of the talents, zeal, and courage of *Mauy*, are highly finished. Of the flagitiousness of the late *Egalité*, the public mind in every part of Europe is fully satisfied; but the anecdote which M. de Moleville relates of his dastardly spirit deserves to be noticed. The Orleans faction, at the head of which were Mirabeau, Sieyes, La Clos, and La Touche, had determined that the Duke, whom they considered but as their puppet, to be moved as they might think proper to pull the wires of the conspiracy, should propose himself as mediator between the King and the capital, and make his appointment of lieutenant-general of the kingdom the essential condition of his mediation. To this proposal of the committee of Montrouge (for that was the name of the place, near Paris, at which they assembled) the Duke consented; and how he performed their injunctions is described in the following terms by the author:—

'The Duke of Orleans, having made himself thorough master of the *theme* which the committee of Montrouge had prepared for him, went on the 15th to the palace, where he witnessed the affliction and alarm spread by the news of the Bastile being taken, and of the enormities that had been the consequences of it. He surely could not have chosen a juncture more favourable to the demand he went to make: accordingly, he presented himself at the door of the King's chamber, which was before the Council Hall, and, as the Baron de Breteuil was coming out of it, asked him, with the most embarrassed air, if he could not speak with his Majesty. "It is not possible," replied the minister; "the King is just retired to his apartments, and will see nobody; but if you have any thing to ask of him, or to communicate

municate to him, you may write to him and send me your letter, which I will give to him this evening at the council, unless you think proper to write directly to myself: I will either show your letter to the King, or I will tell him any thing you desire." He chose to write to the minister; but instead of daring to mention in his letter to the Baron de Breteuil the slightest pretensions to the rank of lieutenant-general of the kingdom, he contented himself with begging that minister to ask the King to permit him to go over to England *if affairs took a disagreeable turn.*

'The Duke of Orleans, too much ashamed of his cowardice to confess it to his trusty friends, only told them that his demand was before the King, and that the Baron de Breteuil had undertaken to make the report of it to the council which was to be held that very day, at seven o'clock in the evening. In consequence one of them went and waited in the anti-chamber for the breaking up of the council, to be the first informed of such important news. The moment he perceived the Baron de Breteuil, he ran up to him, and eagerly asked, *if the affair of the Duke of Orleans had passed?* "Yes, without the least difficulty," replied the minister. "And is he appointed then lieutenant-general of the kingdom?"—"Lieutenant-general of the kingdom! what is it you mean?"—"The affair of the Duke of Orleans."—"The Duke of Orleans has asked permission to go to England, and it is granted him: I know no other business he has." The emissary, disconcerted by so unexpected an answer, made no reply to this, but hastened to give an account of it to the members of the committee, and particularly to Count Mirabeau, whose rage, indignation, and contempt, were vented in violent imprecations against the Duke. Almost all these facts are proved in the proceedings at the Chatelet on the offences of the 5th and 6th of October. No mention is there made of the circumstances relative to the Baron de Breteuil, because that minister's evidence was not called for on the trials; but I have reported them because they were attested to me by M. de Montmorin, who heard them from the King, and from the Baron de Breteuil himself.'

A nobler specimen of impassioned and manly eloquence has never been recorded than that which is stated to have been delivered by Mirabeau in the debate with respect to the expedience of intercepting and opening private correspondence:—

'Is it the part of a people desirous of becoming free, to borrow their maxims and examples from tyranny? Is it proper for them to give a stab to morality, after having been so long the victims of those who violated it? Let those vulgar politicians, who exalt above justice what in their narrow conceptions they dare to call *public utility*; let those politicians at least tell us what interest can palliate such a violation of national honour. What shall we learn by the shameful inquisition of letters? Paltry and filthy intrigues, scandalous anecdotes, and contemptible frivolity. Is it imagined that plots are circulating by the post? Is it imagined that new politics of any importance pass through that channel? Is there any embassy of consequence, any negotiation of an extraordinary nature, that is not carried on in a direct correspondence, and which does not defy the prying

prying of the post-office? Without any manner of use, then, should we violate the secrets of families, the intercourse of the absent, the intimacies of friendship, and the confidence between man and man. So criminal a procedure would not even have an excuse; and it would be said of us throughout Europe, *that in France, under pretence of public safety, they deprive the inhabitants of all right to letters which are the productions of the heart, and the treasure of confidence. This last refuge of liberty has been violated even by those whom the nation deputed to secure its rights. They have left a precedent by which the most secret communications of the soul, the merest chance conjecture of the mind, the emotions of anger often misplaced, errors often corrected the next moment, may be turned into depositions against third persons; by which the citizen, the friend, the son, the father, may thus become the accusers of each other, without knowing it; by which they may be the means of destruction to each other; for the National Assembly have declared, that they will take as the grounds of their decisions, ambiguous and intercepted communications, which they cannot obtain but by a crime.*'

Of the attachment of Mirabeau to the King, and his determination to support the establishment of a constitutional monarchy, there does not exist a doubt, but the author firmly maintains that his services were not purchased by the court. At the end of January, 1791, he had determined to have recourse to every possible means to stem the torrent of general licentiousness, and to invest the crown with what he conceived to be legitimate authority. His suggestions were agreed to by the King, and for the attainment of his object he proposed.

'1st, The dissolution of the National Assembly, and the calling a new one at the request of the Provinces upon other grounds, and principally upon that of property.

'2dly, A plan of constitution, drawn up according to the wish of the majority of the instructions, and sanctioned by the King.

'To insure the success of these means, he proposed, 1st, A coalition in the Assembly between the most prudent of the royalists and the best of the *Coté-Gauche*. 2dly, A distribution of periodical papers in the capital, and in the provinces, to open the eyes of the people respecting the projects and manœuvres of the factious, who were misleading them, and to show the fatal consequences which must result from them. 3dly, To send into the 83 departments well-chosen commissioners, ostensibly charged with the demarcation of the limits of the districts and cantons, and whose secret mission should be to procure uniform addresses for the calling of a new assembly, and for the adoption of the constitutional grounds which should be proposed by the King.'

The instances adduced of the profligacy and venality of many of the principal supporters of revolutionary principles are numerous, and it is to the neglect which Sieyes experienced from the Archbishop of Sens that he is probably indebted for his present dignity of consul. The Abbé had in 1787 pushed himself into notice by his systematic opposition to the views of government in the provincial assembly of Orleans, of which he was a member; and it was recom-

mended to the Archbishop to purchase his silence by the gift of an abbey worth 12,000 livres. A proposition to that effect was accordingly made to Sieyes, to which he consented, and government found no opposition from him at the next meeting of the assembly. But the prelate forgot his promise, and the abbé became a more enthusiastic patriot than before. Some time after he published his first pamphlet, entitled "*Moyens d'Execution*," in which he inserted the most virulent declamation against the archbishop. The anecdote related of Gobet, the constitutional bishop of Paris, we select as a matter of singular curiosity with respect to intrigue and hypocrisy:—

'In the year 1792, he went to the Marquis de Spinola, the Genoese minister, with whom he had requested an interview on a business of the utmost importance. "I come, sir," said he to him, in an affecting tone, "to impart to you a grand project which my conscience has suggested to me, and the success of which depends greatly upon you. The matter is this: Divine Providence has granted me his grace to see the enormity of the crime which I have committed in taking the Constitutional Oath. I wish to retract it. I have perhaps rendered myself still more guilty by accepting the bishopric of Paris. I am resolved to resign it; but I would make my recantation and resignation in a manner so solemn, that there should result from them in favour of religion, a benefit greater than the injury I may have done it, by the scandal of my conduct."

'The Marquis de Spinola could not but be edified by this resolution, but he had no notion how his concurrence could be of use in the business. The Abbé Gobet soon solved the riddle. "Not to mention the danger of being massacred," continued he, "to which I expose myself by so striking a conduct, it is certain that I shall be deprived of all kind of stipend: the decree is positive on that head. I have no fortune, and I have been under the necessity of contracting debts. If I am ruined and left a bankrupt for having done my duty, my example will not have many followers. I wish therefore to know, sir, whether it would be agreeable to you or not to undertake to impart my intentions to the Pope, and solicit for me the assistance of a hundred thousand crowns, which would be enough to pay my debts, and secure me a subsistence.—This sum may appear to you a large one, yet it is very moderate, if you consider, that the salvation of religion in France may depend upon it."

'The Marquis de Spinola, who himself related this anecdote to me, seeing that the affair had nothing to do with the business of the republic of Genoa, refused positively to interfere in it.'

The Annals of M. Bertrand de Moleville certainly furnish the most complete, genuine, and interesting account of the French revolution, from the convocation of the States-General to the period of the King's death, of all those which have hitherto appeared. The principal facts are accurately stated; the anecdotes are curious, and generally bear the marks of authenticity; the characters of the principal actors in that tragic performance are finished in a masterly style; the secret springs which impelled and regulated the actions of the mock-patriots of the day are laid open; and a clue is furnished for the satisfactory

satisfactory elucidation of the causes of many important events which have been involved in obscurity or attributed to chance. The author has very judiciously rejected the useless lumber and spurious tales with which many publications on the same subject are incumbered, and has merely preserved those details and testimonies, which, intimately connected with his object, must prove instructive to the present generation, and serve as valuable records to posterity: his zeal in defence of his unfortunate sovereign seems, in some instances, to have hurried him beyond the strict bounds of impartiality. Mirabeau, who acquired the confidence of the court a short time before his death, is too favourably mentioned, while Lally-Tolendal, the Lameths, the Duke de Liancourt, and many more, the purity of whose motives in the share they had in the revolution we are not readily inclined to question, are not sufficiently distinguished from the common crowd of factious partizans and selfish innovators. The author has, however, succeeded in presenting a correct idea of the causes, principles, and effects of the revolution, as well as of the views and characters of its authors; and the Annals will supply the future historian with valuable materials, when prejudice and the spirit of party shall be no more, and the restoration of social order and general tranquillity shall be effected.

We have noticed some grammatical errors in the work; but we do not impute them to Mr. Dallas, who has fulfilled the duties of a translator with considerable ability.

It is necessary to observe, that the title-page is improperly worded, promising a chronological account of the principal events of the French revolution; while the Annals, with the exception of a brief introduction, only extend to a very early part of it.

St. Godwin; a Tale of the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Century. By Count Reginald De St. Leon. 12*mo.* *Wright.* 1800.

THE tale of St. Leon, by Mr. Godwin, is very happily burlesqued in this pleasing publication. The author has, with considerable ingenuity, employed the powers of ridicule, without any of the severity of indignant satire, in exposing the absurdity of sentiment, the inconsistency of events, and the foppery of style, with which the new novel, written by the champion of the *perfectibility* of *man*, abounds. He has with great effect turned against Mr. Godwin the arts which that gentleman used to render the hero of his romance ludicrous, and Count Reginald de St. Leon is amply revenged on Count Guillaume de St. Godwin.

The method adopted by the writer of the present humorous production, is certainly more calculated to put to the blush the presumption of new fangled philosophy, and to check the restless spirit of affectation and singularity, than critical enquiry or serious investigation. The peculiarities of Mr. Godwin's diction are wittily exemplified, and it is impossible to be grave at the sportive manner in which his

"etherialized nerves, magnetical charms, soulless shadows, balsamic transports, unattractive dispassionateness of narrative, contemplative grasp of thought, mental elasticity, nerves and pulses of the soul, and *refined and rich meat of uncertainty"* are introduced and applied. Having conducted St. Godwin, with equal interest, and with more rapidity than St. Leon was conducted thro' a lapse of nearly one hundred years, the author places him in the Bastille, in 1612, where he has the *philosophic* satisfaction of indulging his *contemplative grasp of thought* for a period of one hundred and twenty seven years, until his release from *cool* and *dispassionate* enquiry, and his restoration to the miseries and horrors of social intercourse, which take place in consequence of the destruction of that prison in 1789. The state in which St. Godwin found himself, after so long a time spent in abstract investigation and profound thought, is thus described:—

'My wife it was in vain to look for—she was in all probability no more, and if otherwise, at that time I should certainly not have been much pleased to see her. Every soul I had known in Paris was dead, and the whole state of affairs, and the minds of men entirely revolutionized.

'Having settled myself comfortably, I entered warmly into the politics of the day, and studied *Jacobinism,* in (as I may say) the primeval schools—drank it in a manner at the very source. *"It twisted itself,"* (as I observed of the death of our black dog) *"with all the fibres of my bosom,"*

'Here I continued in glorious riot and confusion, until the reign of Robespierre, when the guillotine was brought into rapid play, and every rich man's head lopped off for his property. This alarmed me! I should not have minded hanging of a pin's point, but I was fearful that after they had cut off my head, I should not be able to find it again, and so be obliged to go about without one, which, though no uncommon thing in a *figurative* sense, would in reality render me very unfit for conversation and company. I therefore resolved to go to America. In this resolution, however, I was deceived, and, instead of visting America, I was compelled, by the *omnipotence of necessity,* to visit England, but in such a way as never man visited it before.

After some miraculous adventures, which are ridiculous in the history of mankind, but which are "more than dreamt of" in the philosophy of St. Godwin, the hero of the tale is conveyed to London, the true element of the possessor of the philosopher's stone, and launches into every kind of folly and dissipation. But, finding that extravagance only attracted coxcombs and knaves, and that men of genius and sense avoided it, he resolves to change his mode of living, and to court the company of persons distinguished for their literary talents. Of his conduct on that occasion he gives the following account, with which the book concludes:—

'I don't know how it is, but you cannot breathe the same atmosphere as authors, without turning author.—The vice is catching! I found I must be an author.

'Jacobinism had begun to rear its head, and becoming acquainted about

about this time with a Mr. Allcraft, who had lent it all the assistance in his power, he prompted me to give it my countenance and support. I had studied the subject well, it will be recollected, whilst I was in France, and spurred on by my worthy friend, I immediately composed the ideas floating in my brain (did I say brain? I beg pardon) my head, two large quarto volumes.—In which, in the "*lawlessness* of my imagination*," with a terrible pother about what nobody could understand; namely, the *absoluteness of necessity*, the *perfectibility of man*, and *the omnipotence of truth*, I opposed all political and moral order, and endeavoured to overturn every system that time and experience had sanctioned and approved.

'The thought was in a great degree new, and made considerable noise. Some, fond of novelty, however prejudicial, applauded my work; but others, who had the sense to reflect, presently saw that *I*, who talked so much about the *omnipotence of truth*, "*was all a lie*†."

'After this, thinking from my political writings, that I was a good hand at *fiction*, I turned my thoughts to novel writing.—These I wrote in the same pompous inflated style as I had used in my other publication, hoping that my fine, high-sounding periods would assist to make the unsuspecting reader swallow all the insidious reasoning, absurdity, and nonsense, I could invent. The plan succeeded for some time, but at last they burlesqued my works, and made me look like a fool!

"I am happy to close my eventful, and somewhat melancholy story, with *so pleasing* a termination‡."

As a specimen of a style of composition which we imagine the Count proposes to Mr. Godwin for his adoption, we shall conclude with citing an incident entirely his own. We think it presents a striking contrast to the bombastic, unaffecting manner of the author of St. Leon.

'My companies were now less numerous, and my expences more contracted. I did not, however, indulge much in family parties for several reasons; but from what I saw of such as may be justly termed families, I perceived many in the highest rank of life, who were not more distinguished and ennobled by their birth, than by the possession of honour and innocence, and the cultivation of all those social virtues and charities, that sweeten and lend a charm to life. But these lovely qualities, tho' I might admire, I was not born to enjoy.—My spirit was for ever restless and aiming at something that no other living creature could, or perhaps would, perform. How could a man of my infinite wealth (I wont say *worth*) find pleasure in playing for hours, with dowagers, at sixpenny whist? To me it was painfully mortifying, and whenever I wanted such relaxation, I adjourned to the gambling house at which the greatest sums were staked. In one of my visits to a rendezvous of this description, a circumstance occurred which led to a deed (the only good one I recollect ever doing), which I will relate.

'The play was exceedingly high, when a young gentleman entered

* V. 4, p. 44. † V. 4, p. 256. ‡ V. 4, end.

the

the room and joined us. I was prodigiously fortunate that night, and threw, after he had began to set, fifteen mains without intermission. He had constantly increased his stake, and lost a large sum of money. He became impatient, watched me narrowly, and seemed to suspect foul play. Continuing to lose, he suddenly seized my hand as I was about to throw, and insisted on breaking the dice to examine whether they were fair. To this, conscious of my innocence, I readily agreed; saying, however, that I thought the suspicion very ungentlemanly. He made no reply, but being satisfied they were not false, proposed to play with me at one throw for the amount of what he had lost. He appeared much vexed at his crosses, and rather demanded that I should give him this chance of winning it back. I won—he seemed almost in despair—doubled it again—'twas mine. He had no more.—I had won about 30,000l. in money, and his estate, which he said, giving me his address, he would make over to me the next morning—he withdrew.

'There was something about the youth so ingenuous and honest, (things I had seldom met with even in gentlemen at the gaming-table, that I resolved to inspect his character more closely, and not to keep his money unless I found him so attached to gambling, as to be determined not to keep it himself.

'The information I collected was of the most favourable kind.—I waited on him the next day according to his appointment, and was instantly introduced into the breakfast-room. It was two o'clock—He was lying on a sopha with his hair dishevelled and his clothes disordered. His wife, a beautiful young woman, sat at the further end of the room, weeping over two fine boys, her children,—and the breakfast-things stood untouched in the middle.

'The moment I entered, he started up, assumed an air of consequence, and desired his wife in rather a severe tone to take the children away. He then turned to me and said, You are, I apprehend, sir, come to make the transfer—We'll proceed about it immediately.

'I should have been surprised at his coolness, if I had not been convinced that it was affected. Yes, sir, I replied, I am here, according to your desire, but in no hurry to be made master of your estate.—Indeed I wish not to have it.

'Not to have it! he exclaimed. I have no equivalent to give you, and you must have it.

'Not so, said I. You have an equivalent that I will accept, instead.

'Name it! he ejaculated. But, added he, seriously, beware, sir, how you propose any thing dishonest to me!

'The equivalent I mean, said I, is your friendship.

'He looked at me with surprise.

'I know, continued I, that you are not addicted to gaming ——

'No! no! interrupted he, bursting into tears, that I am not.—But my passions are warm, and one night has ruined me!

'Indeed it has not, I rejoined, and if you will give me, instead of your estate, a bond that you will never play again at hazard, I will do more than restore you all you've lost.

'Generous

'Generous man, he exclaimed, how did I wrong you, when I caused the dice to be examined!

'He now proceeded to swear he would never touch a die again, but refused my offer to the full extent. I expostulated with him, and at last getting the liberty to sit down and write a bond relinquishing his estate, I wrote a draft for 60,000l. at the bottom, and, folding up the letter, left the room with these words—

'Remember, sir, although I have purchased your friendship, I shall never use it or call it mine, unless you receive the price I have set upon it.'

In the extracts which we have made, the passages marked with inverted double commas are quotations from *St. Leon, a tale*, with references to the volume and page.

A Treatise on Febrile Diseases, including Intermitting, Remitting, and Continued Fevers; Eruptive Fevers, Inflammations, Hemorrhages, and the Profluvia: In which an Attempt is made to present, at one View, whatever in the present State of Medicine it is requisite for the Physician to know respecting the Symptoms, Causes, and Cure of those Diseases. By Alexander Philips Wilson, M. D. F. R. S. Ed. Physician to the County Hospital at Winchester, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, &c. Vol. I. 8vo. pp. 685. 9s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1799.

THE present state of medical science appeared to demand a work, in which the theories established on the broad and solid basis of experience should be carefully and judiciously separated from others, that arise partly from the bold and sanguine conclusions of the chemical pathologists, and partly from the desultory inquiries of those *system-mongers* who are not contented with what they see and observe, but embrace every opportunity of displaying the efforts of transcendent genius, and of presenting their medical brethren, from *purely philanthropic motives*, with an ingenious and plausible *new* theory. Such has been the case in every age since the days of Galen; and such will ever be the case, till we discover that happy medium by which we may combine experimental knowledge, in a more dispassionate and systematic manner, with the inductions warranted by reason.

The author of this volume has made a very respectable attempt to accomplish that desirable object; though, from the present fluctuating nature of medical theory, it cannot reasonably be expected, that the most sedulous and successful exertions of *one* individual, even during a long and active life, should suffice to separate all the ancient and modern dross from the purer metals. Dr. Wilson has prefixed to this work an elaborate preface, the substance of which he delivered in his *first* introductory lecture, in the summer of 1796, at Edinburgh, to a numerous audience of medical friends and students. —In speaking of the exciting and predisposing, or remote, causes of disease, he makes the following just remarks:

'We

'We constantly find the same circumstance placed by one author among the predisposing, and by another among the exciting causes of the same disease, according to the different opinions they entertained of the nature of the disease, and the *modus operandi* of its causes.

'These considerations have induced me, not to attempt such a division of the remote causes of diseases in every instance. In cases where it may be attempted with some degree of success, at the same time that I adopt the division, I shall point out those causes which belong properly to neither class, but act sometimes as predisposing, at other times as exciting.

'With regard to the proximate cause of diseases, our knowledge is extremely deficient. There are few instances in which we can form even probable conjectures on this subject, and very few indeed in which we have any certain knowledge. In general, therefore, I shall employ little time in considering the proximate cause of diseases. It will be necessary, now and then, to point out the errors of prevalent opinions; and we shall meet with a few instances in which observation has afforded some real knowledge respecting the proximate cause, which is not to be overlooked.' Pp. 24 and 25, *Pref.*

The method which the author has adopted, as well as the division and extent of the work, will appear from the following passages:

'I shall endeavour by attention to method, and adopting in every instance the simplest mode of arrangement which the subject seems to admit of, to adapt the following work to beginners; and, by comprising into a small compass as great a number of useful observations as I am able, to render it not unworthy the attention of the more advanced student, and an useful compendium to be occasionally consulted by the practitioner. I shall on this account avoid the narration of cases, and as much as possible the discussion of opinions, which consume much time.

'I shall endeavour, on the other hand, however, to avoid a great degree of conciseness, which is improper where it is of consequence to use every means of assisting the memory. The most effectual way of assisting the memory, perhaps, is endeavouring in every instance to account for the phenomena of diseases, and explain the operation of the means which relieve them; for even *ill-founded* hypotheses may be *useful* in this way. The injury done by them, however, more than *compensates* for any advantage of this kind. We must therefore look for other means of assisting the memory. This will be done in some measure by a simple mode of arrangement. I shall also, with the same view, arrange together those diseases whose symptoms and treatment are similar; compare the diseases which most resemble each other, point out analogies, and endeavour to trace certain principles, which, I have already had occasion to observe, regulate the treatment of many diseases, or even sets of diseases.

'In the present volume I have endeavoured to free the different parts of the subject from hypothesis, which has been the bane of medicine, and at the same time to retain and enforce the maxims on which the treatment of idiopathic fevers is conducted. These are simple

simple deductions from facts, and must be admitted independently of all hypothesis. Pp. 40—42.

'I have also endeavoured to give the different parts of the subject a more methodical arrangement than we find in the works of those who have treated fully of fevers; and attempted to simplify some of them, particularly the treatment of continued fever, more than has formerly been done.

'But, if in none of these respects I have done any thing deserving of notice, it will still be admitted, that, if the following volume enable another, by moderate application, to acquire in *a few weeks* that knowledge which he could not otherwise acquire without much study, and for the acquisition of which (prepared as I was by having previously studied the subject) I found a twelvemonth's laborious application scarcely sufficient, it cannot be regarded as an useless publication: and this is my apology for offering it to the public.

'With regard to the extent of the work, as far as I can judge, five volumes will comprehend the whole of my plan. In the second, and part of the third volume, I shall finish the first part, that which treats of idiopathic fevers; and the second part, which treats of the symptomatic, will form the remainder of the third and the two last volumes.

'The present volume, however, forming a treatise on intermittent, remittent, and continued fevers, may be regarded as not essentially connected with the volumes which are to follow.' Pp. 43, 44.

The *introduction*, with which the author commences this volume, contains the *nosology* of fevers. And though Dr. Wilson has principally adopted the division of febrile diseases made by the late illustrious Cullen, yet his definitions are in general more exact; and with respect to the arrangement also our author has differed from Dr. Cullen, by dividing the *pyrexiæ* into two classes, namely the *idiopathic* and *symptomatic* fevers. The former, according to Dr. W. comprehends only two of the orders of Dr. C.'s pyrexiæ, the first and third, the febres and exanthemata; for every febrile complaint, which cannot be referred to one of these orders, Dr. W. considers as symptomatic. To justify this new division, the author makes the following acute remarks:—

'However different the symptoms are which distinguish the different genera of idiopathic fevers, there are certain symptoms common to all of them, and which may therefore be allowed to constitute fever, or, in other words, to form the definition of this class of diseases. Let us endeavour to determine what these symptoms are.

'We are informed by Van Swieten, that Boerhaave, with much labour, collected, from a great variety of authors, all the symptoms which they had observed in fevers. From these he threw out such as did not appear in all fevers, and was much surprized to find the catalogue of symptoms, common to all kinds of fever, so short. It reduced itself to the three following, shivering or as it has been termed rigours, a frequent pulse, and heat.

'But it may be observed, that no one even of these symptoms constantly attends fever. The shivering is almost always confined

to the commencement of the fever, or to that of its exacerbations, and sometimes is not observed at all. Both Boerhaave and his commentator allow, that although the shivering is present at the commencement of fever, when arising from an internal cause, such as the pestilential contagion, the contagion of small-pox, &c. yet when it arises from what they call an external cause, such as rage, violent exercise, &c. it often comes on without any sense of cold.

'Many of the ancients, although they did not wholly overlook the state of the pulse, as appears from several passages in the works of Hippocrates, seem to have regarded the last of the three symptoms just mentioned (the increase of temperature) as that which constitutes fever.

'It is well known, however, that in certain kinds of fever the temperature of the body often falls below the natural standard. In the commencement of the cold stage it generally does so, and very often in the progress of that species of fever which has been termed the low nervous fever. The shivering or sense of cold, then, and increase of temperature, are symptoms not only not present at every period of these complaints, but not even at any period essential to fever.

'Thus one symptom only remains to constitute the disease, a frequent pulse, and to this conclusion Boerhaave was led. But we must go a step farther, and observe, that, although a frequent pulse is the most constant of all the symptoms of fever, it is not universally present in these complaints; in malignant fevers the frequency of the pulse is often observed to be no greater, and sometimes considerably less, than natural. In these fevers the pulse has been found to beat only forty, sometimes only thirty times in the minute. Besides, by considering fever as present wherever the frequency of the pulse is increased, we class together the most dissimilar affections. With fever, for instance, we must class palpitation of the heart.

'The inference from these observations is plain, that no one symptom can be regarded as characteristic of fever. We ascertain its presence, not by attending to any one, but several, of its symptoms. In selecting, however, the train of symptoms which characterise it, there is much difficulty*. The following is the selection made by Dr. Cullen: languor, lassitude, and other signs of debility, followed by pyrexia (that is, by rigours, frequent pulse, increased heat, and derangement of the functions, particularly a want of vigour in the limbs), without any primary local affection.

'Although I quote this as the best definition of fevers which has been given, even its author confesses its faults, but pleads justly the difficulty of the subject. The most exceptionable part is the definition of pyrexia contained in it.

* 'It is certainly impossible, by any enumeration of the symptoms of fever, to give a short definition of this complaint that will apply to all periods of every kind of fever; and a long one would not answer the purposes of a definition. In a subsequent part of this volume I shall attempt a definition of idiopathic fevers, constructed on a different principle.'

'Fever, it has just been observed, is not always attended by rigours; even increased heat is not uniformly present during its progress. Increased heat, however, it is necessary to retain as a part of the definition of fever, since it is very generally present, and the frequent pulse, without increased heat, often attends complaints of a very different nature. The derangement of the functions, particularly the debility of the limbs, does not very properly enter into the definition; since the derangement of some of the functions is observable in almost all diseases, and the derangement particularly specified (the debility of the limbs) is frequently absent in fever, in which indeed the vigour of the whole system is often preternaturally increased.' Pp. 14—19.

The author concludes the introduction with the following ARRANGEMENT OF FEBRILE DISEASES:

'Class. I. Febres Idiopathicæ.
Ord. I. Intermittentes et Remittentes.
Ord. II. Continuæ.
Spec. 1, Synocha; 2, Typhus; 3, Synochus. *Variet.* Simplex, Petechialis, Miliaris, Aphthosus, Erysipelatosus, & Vesicularis.
Ord. III. Exanthemata.
Spec. 1, Variola; 2, Varicella; 3, Rubeola; 4, Scarlatina; 5, Pestis; 6, Urticaria.
Class II. Febres Symptomaticæ.
Ord. I. Phlegmasiæ.
Spec. 1, Phlogosis; 2, Ophthalmia; 3, Phrenitis; 4, Cynanche; 5, Pneumonia; 6, Carditis; 7, Peritonitis; 8, Gastritis; 9, Enteritis; 10, Hepatitis; 11, Splenitis; 12, Nephritis; 13, Cystitis; 14, Hysteritis; 15, Rheumatismus; 16, Odontalgia; 17, Podagra; 18, Athropuosis.
Ord. II. Hæmorrhagiæ.
Spec. 1, Epistaxis; 2, Hæmoptysis; 3, Hæmorrhois; 4, Menorrhagia; 5, Hæmatemesis; 6, Hæmaturia.
Ord. III. Profluvia.
Spec. 1, Catarrhus; 2, Dysenteria.

In the *first book* Dr. W. considers *intermitting and remitting fevers*, the treatment and cure of which he points out in a methodical and judicious manner, during the paroxysm as well as the apyrexia or remission. Blisters and *external* warmth are useful during the *cold* stage; but not internal stimulants of any kind, unless emetics may be comprised under that head. In the *hot* stage, it is necessary to produce a copious perspiration as soon as possible: an effect which is accomplished by removing irritation, such as that of bile in the stomach; by diluent liquors; sudorifics, supporting the action of the heart and arteries; and lastly by moderating excitement.

We extract the following aphorisms from the directions which the author gives respecting the diet and exercise of the patient, during the remission of the fever:—

'Wherever there is much of the inflammatory diathesis, the patient's diet must be such as tends to counteract this habit of body. His food should consist of milk and vegetables, and even of these he should not be permitted to eat plentifully, if signs of plethora are evident. A spare diet is one of the few means we have of over-

coming habitual fulness. While there is any tendency to inflammation in the system, fermented liquors must be avoided; the patient's drink should consist of plain water, or some mild vegetable decoction.

'When, on the other hand, much debility prevails, he must be allowed as full a diet as his stomach will bear. It often happens in debilitated states of the system, that the stronger kinds of animal food occasion a degree of irritation capable of exciting temporary fever. Beef, mutton, &c. ought therefore to be avoided; veal, lamb, and chicken, when the powers of digestion are not much weakened, will be found equally nourishing and irritate less. Upon the whole, all that is necessary in this case is, to chuse that kind of food which affords most nourishment with least irritation. The same rule applies to the drink: when the strength is much reduced, it should never consist of pure water, and in no case of any mixture containing distilled spirits, except where fermented liquors, which have not been distilled, cannot be procured. The best drink, in cases where debility prevails, is wine, particularly port, or, what is still better, claret, diluted with water: the quantity is easily regulated by attending to the constitution and habits of the patient, and the effects which the wine produces. Of the fermented liquors of this country, porter is generally found the best. This or any other which the patient prefers is always to be recommended in preference to any kind of distilled spirits, whether diluted or not.

'While the digestive powers remain but little impaired, these few regulations are all that are necessary respecting the diet during the apyrexia of intermittents. But it is not uncommon for a considerable degree of dyspepsia to supervene in these fevers, and then a more particular attention to diet becomes necessary.

'Acescent and oily articles of food, with a large proportion of liquid, compose the diet most apt to injure digestion. The opposite of this diet, therefore, is that which agrees best with dyspeptics. I have just had occasion to observe, that the flesh of old animals irritates more during digestion than that of young. By this, however, it is not meant that the latter is of more easy digestion. Just the contrary of this is true. The flesh of old animals, in general, is more easily digested than that of young, but irritates more while digestion goes on. Nearly the same may be said of the food derived from the whole animal world, compared with that composed of vegetables. The former is constantly found more irritating, more apt to induce fever, the latter more difficult to digest.' Pp. 237—240.

With due deference to Dr. Wilson's accuracy of observation, it appears to us rather doubtful, whether the flesh of old animals be in general more easy of digestion than that of the young; nay, we trust, he also would, without hesitation, prefer a piece of tender veal, or lamb, to the tough muscular substance of old cows, or ewes. *Sit venia verbo!*—Our author then proceeds:

'Where it is our view to obviate the symptoms of dyspepsia, a diet composed of the flesh of old animals, and bread toasted till it is hard, will be found the best. All kinds of soups, gravies, and fresh vegetables,

vegetables, should be avoided, and every thing into the composition of which butter or any other oily substance enters. The same may be said of all hard animal substances, salted and smoked meat, cheese, &c. The harder animal substances are, the more difficult are they of digestion. This is not true of vegetables. There is perhaps no vegetable substance so easy of digestion as a hard sea biscuit, provided it be properly masticated*. Before a dyspeptic can shake off his complaints, he must learn to resist the gratification of his taste; and he must endure this mortification, not for days or weeks, but many months, or even years, if he is resolved not to be tormented by constant returns of the complaint: for when dyspepsia is occasioned by agues, or other lingering complaints, it often continues to harrass the patient long after every symptom of the primary disease is removed.

'There is much difference of opinion respecting the proper drink in dyspeptic cases. I have just had occasion to observe, that the less the diet in this complaint consists of liquid, the better. But there is generally present a considerable degree of thirst, and a certain quantity of fluid is necessary. The general opinion is, that every kind of distilled spirits, as less acescent, is preferable in dyspepsia to any of the fermented liquors, which have not been distilled. The truth is, that neither the one nor the other is a proper article of diet in dyspepsia. They are only to be given when it is of more consequence to support the patient's strength, than to adhere, in every respect, to that diet which is best suited to a weak stomach. But of the two, I have uniformly found (and I am acquainted with other practitioners, who have made this disease a particular study, that are of the same opinion) that fermented liquors, which have not been distilled, are less hurtful in dyspepsia than any kind of spirits, and that the more diluted they are, provided the patient does not take a very large quantity of the fluid, they are the less injurious.

'Wherever the patient's strength is not much reduced, the best drink in dyspepsia is thin water gruel: this is neither very acescent, nor capable of hurting the digestive organs, by applying to them too strong a stimulus; and its mucilaginous property defends the stomach and bowels against any irritating matter they happen to contain.

'The hurtful effects of taking the drink very warm in dyspepsia are generally admitted; but most practitioners are not aware that equal harm is done by taking it very cold. Even ice is sometimes prescribed as a tonic in cases of indigestion; which I have known to be the means of inducing this complaint. There are many dyspeptics who cannot, without injury, take their drink of a temperature lower than 90°, and there is no case of dyspepsia in which its temperature should be under 60°.

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* 'The tough, thready, and membranous parts of vegetables are of most difficult digestion; next to these, the cold vegetables eaten raw, melons, cucumbers, &c.'

'Whatever

'Whatever be the quality of the food, the dyspeptic must be restricted with respect to its quantity; particularly the quantity which he takes at one meal. This caution is the more necessary, because the appetite in dyspepsia is often morbidly increased. Nor is it proper for the interval between meals to be long. I do not know any rule of more importance in this complaint, than to eat frequently, and not much at a time; neither to permit the stomach to remain long empty, nor to oppress it with a load of food.

'Such are the general observations by which the diet, during the apyrexia of intermittents, is regulated. It would be tedious to enter into particulars which every one's reflection must suggest to him.' Pp. 240—244.

(To be continued.)

Reflections on Men and Things; translated from a French Manuscript of the late J. G. Zimmerman, Author of Solitude, &c. Pp. 234. 8vo. 5*s. Symonds.* 1799.

IT rarely happens that the posthumous fragments of an eminent author contribute materially to extend his living fame. Unfinished writings bear a close resemblance to pictorial sketches; they may gratify the learned eye which is able to decypher the short hand of genius, but they will not please the general observer who can only interpret characters at length. This may serve to account for the slight impression which these Reflections are likely to make on common readers, in comparison with the previous productions of Zimmerman; to whose pen we are directed to ascribe them on the authority of an anonymous editor.

'The manuscript (says an advertisement prefixed) was found among the papers of a general officer of the old government of France, who lately died an emigrant in the island of Guernsey. He was long an intimate friend of Zimmerman, and as such was honoured by all who knew him, for he had profited much by so valuable an alliance, his mind being a reflector of all the brighter virtues, and his life was devoted to the benefit and improvement of society. At the time of this gentleman's decease was found among his papers the manuscript of which the public have now a translation, with a note prefixed to the following purport:

'These Reflections were written at an early period of life by J. G. Zimmerman; and, as my acquaintance with him was that of a brother, he lent them to me for perusal, at the same time observing that he thought them too crude for the public eye. I read them, however, with much pleasure, and previous to my returning them to him (with his permission) took the following copy: still I was desirous of his giving them to the world, which before his death he intended, and towards that purport had added those notes which I have since transcribed into this copy."

'It appears, however, that Zimmerman never put his intentions into effect; whether he still conceived that these Reflections were not sufficiently finished for publication, or was anticipated in those intentions by death, I cannot determine: the world, however, have [has] them as I found them, and will determine how far I have done right in submitting them to public perusal.—*The Editor.*'

As these Reflections have, for the most part, an instructive or benevolent tendency, and as many of them bespeak the hand of a master, we think the Editor hath assuredly 'done right in submitting them to the public perusal;' and especially so, if he believes them to be the effusions of the Helvetic philosopher.

The notes subjoined are sometimes not very apposite or illustrative, as will be shewn by a few extracts from the work, taken accidentally.

PART II. 65.

'When the author is no more, the work stands on the basis of its own merit.'

66.

'What slavery can be so severe, so degrading, as partiality to a guilty monarch, a faithless wife, a fickle friend, or unfeeling child*?'

69.

'Where there is feeling, the cruelty is doubled by making our own happiness solely dependent on any individual†.'

An edition of Rochefoucault's maxims, printed by Lockyer Davis in 1775, appears to have been the model followed in this publication, though with inferior success; notwithstanding a considerable number of Lavater's aphorisms are pressed into the service, and subjoined in the notes. A judicious expurgation would render the collection more estimable, and might better serve the purposes of the publisher.

At the end of the volume we were surprised to meet with an 'Ode on Poetical Enthusiasm,' by Scott, of Amwell, which was printed with his works in 1782, and has no more relation to the rest of the book, than Homer's Batrachomuomachia would have had. In any modern miscellany we should have recognized it with cordial gratulation.

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* 'I often talk'd to them of liberty:
Alas! they understood not what I meant;
(For in the Persian tongue is no such word;)
They answer'd nothing but "the King! the King!
That mighty, comprehensive word, "the King!"
Held all the sense a Persian thought could hold.
[*Old Play by Crowne.*']

† 'The husbands seem at last convinced that the chastity of their wives is safest under their own guardianship; and that, when a woman thinks her honour not worth her own regard, it is still more unworthy of his. Formerly a Venetian husband could not be certain that he was not obliged, for his wife's chastity, to iron bars, bolts, and padlocks.—*Dr. Moore.*'

Philosophical

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London for the Year 1799. *Part I.* 4to. *Stitched. Pp.* 182. *Elmsley.*

IN our second number for the past year were announced the publication and the merits of the Royal Society's second volume for 1798. That now before us exhibits equal perfection of mechanism, and affords no less variety of information for scientifical readers.

CONTENTS.—'I. The Croonian lecture. Experiments and observations upon the structure of the nerves, by E. Home, F. R. S.

'II. The Bakerian lecture. Observations upon an unusual refraction of the air; with remarks on the variations to which the lower parts of the atmosphere are sometimes subject: by the Rev. S. Vince, A. M. F. R. S. Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy, Cambridge.

'III. Abstract of a register of the barometer, thermometer, and rain, at Lyndon, in Rutland, 1797: with some remarks on the recovery of injured trees: by Thomas Barker, Esq.

'IV. Additions to a paper on the subject of a child with a double head, by Everard Home, Esq. F. R S.

'V. Observations on the manners, habits, and natural history of the elephant, by John Corse, Esq.

'VI. Decomposition of the acid of borax, or sedative salt, by Laurence Crell, M.D. F. R. S. Translated from the German.

'VII. A method of finding the latitude of a place by means of two altitudes of the sun, and the time elapsed *betwixt* the operations, by the Rev. W. Lax, A. M. Lowndes's Professor of Astronomy, Cambridge.

'VIII. A fourth catalogue of the comparative brightness of the stars, by W. Herschel, LL. D. F. R. S.

'IX. On a sub-marine forest on the East coast of England, by Joseph Correa de Serra, LL.D. F. R. S. A. S.

'X. Meteorological journal, from January 1798 to January 1799, kept at the apartments of the Royal Society, by order of the President and Council.'

Such are the ingredients in this periodical assortment of subjects speculative and experimental, submitted to the consideration of this learned society, and, by the approbation of its members, pronounced worthy of a passport from the press to private and public libraries. These essays have been selected, we suppose, from a far greater number, as the most important and singular in their nature, and whose subjects are treated with superior precision. Some of the articles are too long for transcription in their entire state, and yet unsusceptible of abbreviation: others too scientifical for a great majority of our readers. From this well-digested collection of papers on various productions in nature and art, we select, for a specimen, a few paragraphs on the subject of the inundated forest. But the facts are to be previously stated in our own words, or rather those of the author, in the miniature form.

Along

Along the coast of Lincolnshire are visible, at the lowest tides, a large cluster of islets, commonly reported to consist of decayed trees. In September, 1796, the day after the equinoctial full moon, when the lowest ebbs were expected, Dr. Correa, with the President of the Royal Society, went to Sutton, on that coast, to examine the extent and nature of those islets. In a boat they visited one of the largest, about 35 yards long and 25 wide. A great number of smaller size were visible, divided by wide channels of various depths. They consisted almost entirely of roots, trunks, branches, and leaves of trees and shrubs. The remains of some trees were still standing on their roots, while trunks of the greater part lay scattered in every direction. Of the sorts, birch, fir, and oak, are most distinguishable. The soil on which they grew, is a soft greasy clay, covered several inches deep with rotten leaves. These islets extend at least 12 miles in length, and about one mile in breadth, opposite to Sutton shore. A well, sunk at Sutton, shews that a moor of the same nature is found under ground 16 feet deep, on a level with the islets. Sir J. Banks having directed a boring in the fields of Marblethorpe, a moor of a similar nature was found, very nearly on a level with the well and the islets, four feet thick. The whole appearance of the rotten vegetables resembles the moor in Blankeney fen, which has been traced as far as Peterborough, above 60 miles to the South of Sutton. On the north side the moory islets extend to Grunsby, at the mouth of the Humber, where is a subterraneous stratum of decayed trees and shrubs exactly like those at Sutton.

From the identity of the level, the same species of the trees, their roots affixed to the soil where they grew, and, above all, from the flattened shape of the trunks, roots, and branches, produced solely by the heavy pressure of a superinduced stratum, the author shrewdly conjectures, that this vast sub-marine forest had been overwhelmed by some violent inroad of the sea.

An assemblage of vegetable ruins so widely spread, lying in the same level, and that level generally under the low water mark, must prompt enquiry into the epoch and cause of the catastrophe.

It is remarked, that vegetable ruins, hitherto dug up in immensely distant parts of the globe, are found to indicate two very different states of our planet.

The parts and impressions of vegetables, hitherto discovered, in calcareous and other *mountains*, are chiefly of plants now existing between the tropics, and no where else. No acting forces under the present constitution of nature could remove *these* from their parent climate, and deposit them in very remote latitudes. Yet the relicts of such tropical plants expert naturalists have found in England, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Iceland. Every circumstance considered, such phenomena are not reducible to the primeval order of vegetable ruins.

The vegetable relicts found in mountains are light substances, trunks, branches, and leaves of trees, which strong currents, aided

by boisterous winds, might convey from the equinoctial to either pole. But such vegetable fossils as are found, near by the parent root, in beds of clay or sand, the result of ever-accumulating matter deposited by tides or rivers, are found in flat countries, and may be considered as of a new formation. Their organization continues in part, and their substance has suffered a change of secondary qualities only, colour, consistence, smell. Such are the fossil vegetables found in Cornwall, Essex, York, and in foreign countries. To this class the author associates those phenomena which are the subjects of this memoir. The specified causes of this destruction are, in our opinion, strictly philosophical, and to the article we refer our philosophical readers.

'An exact resemblance subsists between maritime Flanders and the opposite coast of England, both in point of elevation above the sea, and of internal structure and arrangement of the soils. On both sides, straita of clay, silt, and sand, are often found, mixed with decayed vegetables, near the surface; and, in both, these superior materials cover a very deep stratum of bluish or dark-coloured clay unmixed with extraneous bodies. On both sides they are the lowermost part of the soil, existing between the ridges of high lands, on the respective sides of the same narrow sea. These two countries are certainly coeval; and, whatever proves that maritime Flanders has been for ages out of the sea, must, in my opinion, prove also, that the forest, of which we are now speaking, was long before that time destroyed and buried under a stratum of soil. Now it seems proved, from historical records, carefully collected by several learned members of the Brussels Academy, that no material change has happened to the lowermost part of maritime Flanders during the last 2000 years.

'The ridges of high lands, both on the British and Flemish coasts, must be very similar to each other, since both contain parts of tropical plants in a fossil state. Cocoa nuts, and the fruits of the areca, are found in the Belgic ridge. The petrified fruits of Sheppey, and other impressions of tropical plants on this side of the water, are well known.

'I am, therefore, inclined to suppose, the original catastrophe, which buried this forest, to be of a very ancient date; but I suspect the inroad of the sea, which uncovered the decayed trees in the islets of Sutton, to be comparatively recent. The state of the leaves and of the timber, and also the tradition of the neighbouring people, concur to strengthen this suspicion. Leaves, and other delicate parts of plants, though they may long be preserved in a subterraneous situation, cannot remain uninjured when exposed to the action of waves and of the air. The people of the country believe that their parish church once stood on the spot where the islets now are, and was submerged by the inroads of the sea; that at very low water their ancestors could even discern its ruins; that their present church was built to supply that which the waves washed away; and that even their present clock belonged to the old church. So many concomitant, though weak testimonies, incline me to believe

lieve their report; and to suppose, that some of the stormy inundations of the north sea, which, in these last centuries, have washed away such large tracts of land, on its shores, took away a soil resting on clay, and at last uncovered the trees which are the subjects of this paper.'

Transactions of the Society instituted at London for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; with Premiums offered in the Year 1799. *Vol. XVII. London.* 8vo. *pp.* 464. *Price* 8*s. Boards. Robson, White, &c.* 1799.

ARTS, manufactures, and commerce, are the sinews of civil and political life; the criterion and badge of distinction between civilization and barbarism; and, when found in connection with the moral and divine virtues, the source of national prosperity.

This truly patriot institution, the model of several others in various districts of our spacious island, still holds the rank of honourable pre-eminence. With laudable emulation, untinctured by jealousy or envy, all conspire to prompt and reward genius, in its diversified exertions to lessen the drudgery of manual toil, by the intervention of machinery, to render the earth more productive, to increase the number, and multiply the conveniences, of her rational inhabitants.

This xviith volume exhibits, in the frontispiece, a portrait of Dr. Templeman, the late worthy principal secretary of the Society, of whose character a concise account is given in the first paragraph of the preface. The following address to the public is, we believe, prefixed to all the former volumes. It is here copied to explain the constitutional system.

'The chief objects of the attention of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, in the application of their rewards, are ingenuity in the several branches of the *polite* and *liberal* arts; useful discoveries and improvements in *agriculture*, *manufactories*, *mechanics*, and *chemistry*, or the laying open any such to the public; and, in general, all such useful inventions, discoveries, or improvements, (though not mentioned in the book of premiums,) as may have an apparent tendency to the advantage of trade and commerce. *Adelphi*, 10*th April*, 1799.'

For the past year the profered premiums are no less than 250; by far too numerous for recital, with specification of circumstances; though the subjects are conducive to important ends, prescribed with deliberate judgment, and discoveries liberally to be rewarded.

Two articles, though perhaps less important than many which must be omitted, we select as projects of possible utility.

'No. 205. *Cloth from hop stalks or bines.*

'To the person who shall present to the Society the greatest quantity, not less than 30 yards, of cloth, at least 27 inches wide, made in Great Britain, of hop stalks or bines, and superior to any other

hitherto manufactured in England of that material; the gold medal, or 30 guineas.

'One pound of the thread of which the cloth is made, and 30 yards of the cloth, together with proper certification that the whole is manufactured from hop stalks or bines, to be produced to the Society on or before the first Tuesday in December, 1799,

'N. B. The Society are already in possession of cloth made in England from hop stalks or bines, which may be inspected by application to the register.'

'No. 208. *Paper from raw vegetable substances.*

'To the person in Great Britain who shall make the greatest quantity of paper, not less than ten reams, of the best and most useful quality, from raw vegetable substances; twenty guineas. Certificates of such paper being made, and one ream of the paper, to be produced on or before the first Tuesday in December, 1799.

'N. B. The Society are in possession of two volumes, containing a great variety of specimens of paper made from raw vegetables, thistles, potatoe-haum, poplar, hop-bines, &c. which volumes may be inspected by any person, on application to the register.' *Pp.* 84, 85.

We have always considered *&c.* as an insignificant supplement to a suspended sentence. Who knows what things it comprehends? Narrow lawns are or were manufactured in Holland from the fibrous pellicle of nettles. Lawn must be convertible into paper. Why may the experiment not be tried, if not yet tried? Should success crown the attempt, we may expect to see nettle plantations applied to the uses of the produce from flax fields; and that stinging weed first adorning the persons of our British fair, and then the stationer's shop, ready for the operations of the quill or the press.

For the new subjects of experiment, during the past year, we refer to the preface, and now proceed to the articles *Agriculture, Chemistry, Polite Arts, Manufactures, Mechanics.*

'In the year 1791 the great park at Windsor, about 4000 acres, fell into his Majesty's possession. It might truly be called a rough jewel. The whole, as a natural object, was grand and beautiful, of a forest appearance; but the parts were crowded and indistinct. The soil was various, some parts clay and loam, and some sharp gravel, or poor sand; a great part of the former covered with rushes and mole hills; and the latter, with fern and moss.

'About 1000 acres of the lightest part were separated from the rest, at one extremity, and formed what is called the Norfolk farm: about 400 acres more, at the other extremity, of a good loamy soil, were separated, and called the Flemish farm; both denominated from the nature of the husbandry meant to be adopted upon them.'

'The rest, about 2400 acres, remains still in plantations and park; and though so much reduced, yet, from the improvements made upon it, is now capable of carrying more stock than the whole 4000 acres did before. All the unsound wet parts have been drained by the Essex mode, so as to be rendered firm, and productive of an improved herbage. The mole-hills have been levelled, chiefly by dragging, and the coarse and mossy parts fined by harrowing, rolling,

rolling, (being one of the first improvements upon park land of this description;) besides which a variety of beauties has been laid open by clearing the lower parts, to give a bolder effect to the woody scenes upon the higher ground; and by making judicious openings, so as to break straight lines, and separate parts that were in some places too heavy and samely: so that the same extent of land has now not only a much larger appearance, but exhibits a much greater variety of ground. The truth of this every impartial observer, who knew the place before his Majesty caused these improvements to be made, must allow. I have only to add, that, though prejudice may have taken up the idea, that there has been too great a sacrifice of timber in effecting these improvements, truth will deny it. Not a tree has been taken down, but what was either in decay, or removed, either to give room for the growth of others, or to set them off to greater advantage in picturesque appearance,' P. 120.

Illiberal minds, and censorious tongues, ever prone to surmise and speak evil of dignities, may entertain and utter the notion that such undertakings are unsuitable to the character of a sovereign, and that he should rather encourage the industry of his subjects, by purchasing the produce of their labours, than supply the markets with commodities from his own expensive farm.

Such insinuations discover more of bad humour than sound judgment. In the ages of primeval simplicity, princes, and even supreme magistrates, tended flocks and conducted the plough, without degradation of character. In this season of dearth and scarcity, the improvements now going forward in the vicinity of Windsor convert unproductive grounds into fruitful fields; and, as the writer of the paper, whence the preceding quotation is taken, observes, his Majesty was induced to adopt the farming system upon so large a scale, to create useful labour for the poor in the neighbourhood, to try experiments in agriculture, and to excite imitation where success might encourage it in similar situations.

'The true light of viewing these improvements is to consider them as a sort of a new creation to the public; for as it is a fact not to be controverted, that the reduced number of acres in the park, from their improved state, support as many cattle as the whole did before, the produce obtained from the farms is all pure gain: and as the crop of wheat and rye from the 140 acres sown, may, upon the most moderate computation, be set at 3,360 bushels, and allowing six bushels to a human mouth, this gives a yearly provision in bread for 560 people; to say nothing of the fatting-off of 40 oxen, the breed of 800 sheep, and the growth of at least 5000 bushels of oats and beans; all of which, it must be observed, goes in aid of the public market, as the work is done by oxen entirely.

'As more experiments are in future made, I may, perhaps, trouble the Society with an account of them, as I am persuaded they cannot be registered any where else, to give them the credit, and to excite the imitation, I flatter myself they deserve. But, for the present, I shall close my observations upon his Majesty's farms with

with a description of his mill, which I consider as the most benevolent thing that can be done for the poor, and which I most earnestly recommend to all gentlemen of landed property, who have like means of doing it. A small over-shot mill is erected, and worked by the waste water from the lake below the Lodge, where a sufficiency of corn, two thirds wheat, and one third rye, is ground, dressed, and given to all the labourers, at sixteen pence per stone of 14 pounds, in quantities suitable to the size of their families; which is the first of all comforts to them, and a saving of 20 per cent. at least, from what it would cost them to buy it from the mealmen or shopkeepers.

'Craig's-court, 'I am, Sir, &c.

30th October, 1798.' P. 137. 'NATHAN. KENT.'

As a meritorious, and more especially as a short article, we transcribe a report of waste land, at Box-hill, in the parish of Dorking, Surry, and in the occupation of John Fox, improved to a very high degree of fertility.

'The land being a large quantity, and lying in an uncultivated state, I proceeded on my design, and chose the north part of the hill, which consisted, one part of red marl, in another part chalk loam, the depth of from 10 to 15 inches. Underneath lies a chalk rock, and the only vegetable produce was a spungy moss bent grass. With this were mixed some coarse, half dead grass, which all cattle refused, except sheep, in the winter, when every other plant was destroyed, and the ground became bare. I began the first operation by paring off the surface to the depth of about three inches, and which, as soon as dry, was burned in heaps at convenient distances, for the benefit of spreading the ashes. This was done all summer, from February 1797, to October following, for different crops: 1st, from Feb. 11 to May 1, for oats 50 acres: from 1st May to 15th July, for turnips 35 acres: from 15th July to the latter end of October, 12 acres for wheat.

'The following is the estimate of the expences of cultivation; and the quantity of oats sown on the first 50 acres was about five bushels per acre, and produce about 70 bushels per acre. The 35 acres sown with turnips were worth about two pounds per acre. The oats ash I plowed and sowed with wheat, about three bushels per acre, and produce about 26 bushels per acre. In the spring of 1798 the same land, after the turnip crop, I sowed with barley, about four bushels per acre, produce about 50 bushels per acre.

'Seventy-five acres cultivated, and not pared and burnt on Box-hill farm, early in 1797, on the west part of the said hill, was covered with juniper bushes and thorns, which no breast plough could touch; nor was there any turf sufficient, from which any ashes could be collected, nor grass, but what all cattle refused. In fact this ground was worth no more than the growth of the junipers and thorns; and the slowness of the growth made it of the small annual value of one shilling per acre.' P. 217.

For the estimate of expences per acre, and the produce, we refer practical farmers to the volume; that room may be reserved for a few instances of successful ingenuity in the rural and polite arts.

CLASS

'CLASS 50. To T. Peage, Esq. of Ely, for planting seven acres and a half with oziers in 1798, the gold medal, value three guineas.' P. 362.

'CLASS 88. To Mr. R. Dudgeon, of Tillingham, near Dunbar, for cultivating upwards of 23 acres with wheat after beans, in 1797, 20 guineas.

'CLASS 93. To Mr. W. Seaton, of Tilgate, Surry, for cultivating six acres of land with potatoes for feeding cattle and sheep, 30 guineas.

To Thomas Wakefield, of Liverpool, Esq. for experiments on making hay in wet weather, the silver medal.

'CLASS 90. To M. Forster, of Broomy Holme, near Chester-le-street, Esq. for observations on the comparative culture of turnips, the gold medal.

'CLASS 104. To Mr. Robert Bell, of Huntshall, near Jedburgh, North Britain, for improving 468 acres of waste land, the silver medal and 20 guineas.

'CLASS 105. To J. Fox, of Boxhill, for improving 172 acres of waste lands, the silver medal and ten guineas.

'CLASS 172. To C. Parry, of Bath, for drawing a portrait of his brother, in the character of a shepherd-boy struggling with a ram, the silver medal.

'CLASS 182. To J. Barry, Esq. in testimony of his public spirit and eminent abilities, manifested in the series of pictures in the great room of the Society, the gold medal and 200 guineas.

'To T. Cook, of Newington, Surry, for his easy and commodious method of turning spheres, 20 guineas.

'To S. Goodrich, of Lambeth, for his new constructed clock, with a crank in the place of an escapement, 65 pounds.

'To W. Featherstonhaugh, of Chester-le-street, Durham, for his method of counter-balancing the ropes used in the deep shafts of mines, the silver medal.

'To R. Haynham, of St. Petersburgh, for his ingenious method of gauging cutters for wheels for clock and watch makers, exemplified by an instrument, drawings, and various laborious calculations, the gold medal.

'CLASS 219. To S. Mure, Esq. of Williamsfield Penn, in the parish of St. Elizabeth, in the island of Jamaica, for making a plantation of 101 bread-fruit trees, the silver medal and 20 guineas.'

This exotic species of vegetable productions, if its qualities correspond to its name, seems to resemble the emblematical tree of life, not from its efficacy to confer a forfeited immortality, but to serve, in the event of famine, as a substitute for wheat, rye, and other kinds of grain, which are emphatically denominated the staff of life. As in our northern climate the solar warmth, during our short summer, is insufficient to concoct and consolidate its nutritive juices, experiments are now attempted in our more genial colonies to promote and effectuate its inherent energies: we impart to the public the progress of such experiments.

'Archibald

'Archibald M'Liesh, servant of Samuel Mure, Esq. in the parish of St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, declares, that he planted, within a strong enclosure, formed of a stone wall four feet and a half in height, which takes in an area of about three acres and a half, on the said settlement, 101 bread-fruit trees; the original plants of which were brought from Otaheite, and put in the ground from the 17th October, 1797, and continued to be supplied with fresh plants till 1st of January, 1798; the whole of which number of bread-fruit plants are now in a most thriving and flourishing state.'

The veracity of this report is certified by Lord Balcarras.

'Archibald M'Liesh has distributed about 350 plants of the bread-fruit to gentlemen of estates, at the distance of 40 or 50 miles from him, and has upwards of 200 more to distribute, besides those mentioned in the certificate.'

'*Method of Cultivation.*

'By suckers and layers; and also by cutting off the small roots of one quarter of an inch to one inch and a half diameter, and about five inches in length, from trees that bear fruit, which must be planted the small end downwards, and the thick end about half an inch above the soil; and in ten months they may be transplanted. The trees arrive at the greatest perfection in a rich loamy soil, and require great heat and moderate moisture.'

Next after the premiums granted to successful candidates are catalogues of the presents, and of the models and machines, sent to the society since the publication of their sixteenth volume. Lists of their officers, and of the contributing members, whose names, extending through 50 pages, we conjecture to be about 1000, usher in the Index of persons and things.

A society of forty years standing, whose transactions and yearly exhibitions have acquired for the institution general renown, needs not the encomium of a recent monthly journal. Their patriotic endeavours to extend the useful arts, the increase of population, and the comforts of civilized life, to the remotest corners of our native island, we unfeignedly applaud; and felicitate our country in the numerous establishments of a similar nature, of which the members concur, with laudable unanimity and zeal, in promoting the same important ends for the glory and stability of the British empire.

The Pleasures of Hope; in Two Parts. With other Poems. By Thomas Campbell. The Second Edition, corrected and enlarged. Crown 8*vo. pp.* 137. 6*s. Mundell, Edinburgh. Longman, London.* 1800.

WHEN a production of real merit appears a second time before the public with additions and emendations, it seems to be the duty of a literary journal to welcome its re-appearance, and to point its improvements.

Of the present poems, and of their author, we already have expressed our favourable sentiments*. In the critical revision of his volume, Mr. Campbell has judiciously directed his attention to the "Pleasures of Hope," which will form a durable basis of poetic

* See Vol. II. p. 261.

fame;

fame; and he has greatly encreased the interest and the importance of his poem by adding 150 lines to the *second part*. This enlargement has given a more equable counterpoise to both parts; and it has taken off an appearance of hasty in consideration for the most momentous view of his subject—the influence of RELIGION on the prospects of futurity. We extract, with much pleasure, the following animated apostrophe, which conveys in rapturous poesy the sublimest moral truths:—

'DAUGHTER OF FAITH! awake, arise, illume
The dread unknown, the chaos of the tomb:
Melt and dispel, ye spectre-doubts, that roll
Cimmerian darkness on the parting soul!
Fly, like the moon-ey'd herald of dismay,
Chas'd on his night-steed by the star of day!
The strife is o'er—the pangs of nature close,
And life's last rapture triumphs o'er her woes.
Hark! as the spirit eyes, with eagle gaze,
The noon of Heav'n undazzled by the blaze,
On heav'nly winds that waft her to the sky,
Float the sweet tones of star-born melody;
Wild as that hallow'd anthem sent to hail
Bethlehem's Shepherds in the lonely vale,
When Jordan hush'd his waves, and midnight still
Watch'd on the holy tow'rs of Zion hill!
'Oh! lives, there, Heav'n! beneath thy dread expanse,
One hopeless, dark idolater of Chance,
Content to feed, with pleasures unrefin'd,
The lukewarm passions of a lowly mind;
Who, mould'ring earthward, 'reft of every trust,
In joyless union wedded to the dust,
Could all the parting energy dismiss,
And call this barren world sufficient bliss?—
There live, alas! of heav'n-directed mien,
Of cultur'd soul, and sapient eye serene,
Who hail thee, man! the pilgrim of a day,
Spouse of the worm, and brother of the clay!
Frail as the leaf in Autumn's yellow bow'r,
Dust in the wind, or dew upon the flow'r;
A friendless slave, a child without a sire,
Whose mortal life, and momentary fire,
Lights to the grave his chance-created form,
As ocean-wrecks illuminate the storm,
And, when the gun's tremendous flash is o'er,
To night and silence sink for evermore!——
Are these the pompous tidings ye proclaim,
Lights of the world, and demi-gods of fame?
Is this your triumph—this your proud applause,
Children of truth, and champions of her cause?
For this hath science search'd, on weary wing,
By shore and sea—each mute and living thing?
Launch'd with Iberia's pilot from the steep
To worlds unknown, and isles beyond the deep?
Or round the cope her living chariot driv'n,
And wheel'd in triumph through the signs of heav'n?
Oh! star-ey'd science, hast thou wander'd there,
To waft us home the message of despair?
Then bind the palm, thy sage's brow to suit,
Of blasted leaf, and death-distilling fruit!
Ah me! the laurel'd wreath that murder rears,
Blood-nurs'd, and water'd by the widow's tears,
Seems not so foul, so tainted, and so dread,
As waves the night-shade round the sceptic head.'

The *ardor æthereus animi* pervades the whole of this passage, though a fastidious ear might possibly object to the too frequent recurrence of *heav'n* and *heav'nly*.

The following line has deservedly been termed "exquisite," but it is immediately borrowed from "The Grave" of Blair:

"Like Angel-visits, few and far between."
P. of H. Part II. l. 378.

——————— "its visits,
Like those of Angels, short and far between."
Blair's Grave, l. 589.

Some other expressions deserve to be assigned to their proper sources; as

"The song of other times"—"the joy of grief"—"narrow bed."——*Ossian.*

"Weep to record, and blush to give it in!"—*Sterne.*

"Her watch-tower in the clouds."—*Milton.*

Lurid for *livid*, *P. II. l.* 138, a correction made by the author in his former edition, has escaped notice in the present.

An Analysis of the subjects treated of is now prefixed to the "Pleasures of Hope," on the plan of Mr. Rogers, to whose popular publication the present forms a valuable counterpart.

A new plate of the Hindoo deity BRAMA, designed by Porter, and engraved by Neagle, embellishes this second edition of Mr. C.'s principal poem, which, we doubt not, will be the precursor of many others.

A Voyage to the East Indies, containing an Account of the Manners, Customs, &c. of the Natives, with a Geographical Description of the Country: Collected from Observations during a Residence of Thirteen Years, from 1776 *to* 1789, *in Districts little frequented by Europeans. By Fra. Paolino Bartolemeo, Member of the Academy of Velitri, and formerly Professor of Oriental Languages in the Propaganda at Rome. With Notes and Illustrations, by John Reinhold Forster, LL. D. Professor of Natural History, in the University of Halle. Translated by William Johnston.* 8vo. *Boards. pp.* 486. 8*s. Vernor and Hood.* 1800.

KNOWLEDGE ever retains her communicative quality. Voyages to the eastern world, for commerce, conquest, and discovery, have of late years signalized the abilities of many European adventurers in the several departments of active life; and seldom is any ultramarine expedition accomplished of which the journals are not made public, together with a promiscuous assemblage of jaunts, tours, and travels, real or fictitious. The multiplication of books is no grievance. The paper manufactory and printing-press employ many hands, from the ingenious type-founder to the warehouse porter. Government derives ample revenues from the productive labours of the mechanics who prepare either the materials, or the utensils, for the operations of the press; and if some authors write and publish without eventual emolument, no small praise is due to those who have read what deserved to be written, and write what deserves to be read.

In

In a concise preface, by the English translator, we have a few memoirs of the author, the titles of his other publications, and a retrospective account of the volume now republished.

In a note the title of this volume is transcribed in the original Italian, 1796; and this English version said to be taken from a German edition in 1798, with notes by the foreign translator, Dr. Forster. These notes are confessedly valuable. But why is the English reader presented with the version of a version? Some translations are said to be preferable to the original works. If this be the merit of the German edition, as it is called, and this a faithful translation, the English purchasers will have nothing to regret.

Useful, indeed, is the index; but it would have been so, in a superior degree, if it had not been confined to articles purely geographical. The contents of the chapters are extremely parsimonious of information, which circumstance renders a more comprehensive index still desirable.

'It appears from some of his quotations, that the author understood also the English and French.' This sentence, omitted in transcribing the preface, is here inserted for confirmation of the fact presumed from his quotations. That he resided some time at least in this country is evident from a note at the bottom of page 24th: 'The coffin of the ox Apis was found near Memphis by Paul Lucas and Wortley Montague, the latter of whom carried away a stone, with a sculpture on it representing the embalming of Apis. This stone may be seen in the British Museum, to the keepers of which I first explained it.'

Book I. in ten chapters, of which the following are the titles:—

Chap. I. Arrival at Pudiceri—Coast of Coromandel—Going on shore—Capuchins—Jesuits—Description of the city—Its trade—Fortifications—White ants—Bitter drops—Error of the heathens in respect to christianity. II Virapatnam—Seminary there—Error of Ptolemy the geographer—Apis—Error of some modern geographers—Etymological catalogue of places in Carnada, Tanjour and Madura. III. Geographical, statistical, and historical observations on the kingdoms of Tanjour, Marava, and Carnada. IV. Journey from Pudiceri to Covalan, Maïlapouri, and Madraspatnam. V. Indian weights, measures, coins, and merchandise. VI. Topographical description of Malabar. VII. Population of Malayala—Manners, customs, and industry of the inhabitants—Political state of the country. VIII. Missionary affairs—Audience of the King of Travancor. IX. Quadrupeds, birds, and amphibious animals on the coast of Malabar. X. Seas, rivers, vessels used for navigation, fish, shell fish, and serpents in India.

'The second book comprehends thirteen chapters—I. Birth and education of children II. State of marriage. III. Laws. IV. Classes, or families. V. Administration of justice. VI. Languages. VII. Religion and deities. VIII. Hieroglyphical marks of distinction. IX. Division of time—Festivals—Calendar. X. Music, poetry, architecture, and other arts and sciences. XI. Medicine and botany. XII. Author's voyage to Europe—Island of Ceylon. XIII. Author's voyage continued—Short account of the islands of France, Bourbon, Cape of Good Hope, and the island of Ascension.

We recollect, that Mr. David Mallet published a Life of the Lord Chancellor Bacon, which, prior to its appearance, excited no small degree of expectation. But the Life was no sooner put in circulation, than the remark occurred to every reader, that the author had forgotten that the Chancellor was the Reformer of the Old, and the Father of the New Philosophy.

Mr. Bartolomeo seems, in like manner, to have forgotten, that the primary object of his voyage to the east was the propagation of the Gospel among the Mohammedan and Pagan inhabitants. We do not insinuate, that he neglected the duties of his apostolical legation, but it must be admitted that his labours, as a missionary, make but a diminutive and distant figure in the back-ground of that vast group, which his skilful pencil exhibits. From an immense mass of dissimilar materials, widely dispersed, we collect a few memorials of our author, as an ambassador from the two successive pontiffs, Clement XIV. and Pius VI.

'At Virapatnam, six miles distant from Pudiceri, is a seminary, where young Indians, who embrace christianity, are educated. It is situated in a palm-garden; was founded by Mr. Mathon, a member of the *Mission de Strangeres*, who then, 1776, presided over it as rector. It affords every accommodation for study, devotion, and labour, for each of them is obliged to learn a trade. This institution was destined only for young persons from China, Cochin China, and Siam. P. 18.

'The capuchins of the province of *Tours*, in France, have the right of sending a missionary priest to Pudiceri, when the place becomes vacant. The ex-jesuits, in virtue of a decree issued by Louis XVI. are united with the Mission de Strangeres, with whom they form one body. The Europeans are under the care of the capuchins, and the Indian christians under that of the ex-jesuits. The latter have to attend 4000 christians.' P. 25.

'In my time were 18,000 christians in the kingdom of Madura, in Carnada 2000, and in Tanjour 10,000: whereas the Danish missionaries at Tranquebar, with all their exertions, could scarcely muster 1000 Lutheran christians; and many even of this insignificant number abjured, as soon as they removed beyond that boundary.' P. 65.

'Between Collam and Comari are reckoned 75 catholic congregations.'

From what has been said the reader may easily see what are the peculiar functions of a missionary. He is obliged to instruct children; to preach, to confess, to visit churches, and to punish and absolve, *in foro conscientiæ*, christians, who have transgressed. He must also take care that the priests, under his inspection, read their Breviary in public; that they diligently visit their parishioners, and administer the sacraments properly; that the overseers lay out the church money with œconomy; that they embezzle none of it; that they give a just account of it at stated times; that the christians regularly attend divine worship, follow no superstitious practices, and frequent neither the festivals, nor processions of the heathens. Their cognizance extends to every thing but robbery and murder.

'Pope Clement XIV. transmitted to me full power to confirm newly converted christians. In consequence of this authority, I confirmed, on the coast of Malabar, in 1780 and 1781, 20,000 persons. During that period I visited Angamali, Maleamai, Codomangalam, Molicolam, Puttenpalle, Mageapre, and other christian congregations lying at a great distance in the forests; and I can say that great numbers resorted to me. The desire of obtaining confirmation went so far, that sick people were brought to the church on beds, in order that I might administer to them the sacrament.'

On subjects of a more general nature, we select a few extracts.

1. *Seasons.* Dr. Worthington, in his 'Scripture Theory of the Earth,' remarks, "Some countries, under the same parallel, to which the sun is nearly vertical, have seasons differing from the heavens, and from each other. Malabar and Coromandel lie in the same latitude, are divided from each other by the Gata mountains [Gauts], and are not distant above 70 miles in some places, in others not above

above 20, from each other; and yet their summer and winter are quite opposite. At Malabar it is summer from September to April; at Coromandel it is then winter, when it rains continually; and from April to September is the summer season there, while it is winter at Malabar." P. 260. Thus far Dr. Worthington. We return to our author.

'This chain of mountains, the Gauts, begins at Cape Comari, in the eighth degree of N. latitude, and extends thence towards the north; so that it almost intersects India in the middle. The eastern part is called Ciolomandola, the western Malayala. The highest ridge of mountains in this country occasions that difference in the weather, and that remarkable change of seasons, which take place on both these coasts. This is one of the most singular phenomena in nature, ever yet observed. On the coast of Ciolomandala summer begins in June; but on the coast of Malabar in October. During the latter month, it is winter on the coast of Ciolomandala; on that of Malabar it begins so early as the 14th of June.' P. 3.

'At Pudiceri, in 12 degrees of N. latitude, 78 deg. E. long, the sun rises on the 1st January at 23 min. past six, and sets 37 min. past five. On the 28th August he appears above the horizon 51 min. after five, and sets nine min. after six. On the 1st December he makes his appearance 21 min. past six, and sets 38 min. after five. From these data the reader may easily calculate the length of the days and the nights.' P. 25.

2. *Errors of the Ancient and Modern Geographers.* 'In giving the distances of places, Ptolemy generally errs from two or three degrees of latitude, which the ancient travellers reckoned by the length or shortness of the day; and consequently determined the distance of one place from another in the same manner. But as the day and night near the equator are almost always of equal length, it may readily be conceived that the latitude of a place could not accurately be ascertained in that manner. Ptolemy and all who depended upon him fell into gross errors. The latitude is not accurately determined even by the moderns. J. H Moore, in his Practical Navigator, places Pudiceri in 11 deg. 56 min. north lat. De la Tour, De l'Isle, and d'Anvil, also differ from each other in their maps.' P. 19.

'The city of Diospolis, mentioned by Ptolemy and Arrian, lies in the latitude of 31 deg. on the river Allakandara, which disgorges itself into the Ganges. Pallibothra is neither the present Patna on the Ganges, as Major Rennel pretends; nor Eleabad, or Allabad, also on the Ganges, latitude 25 deg. some minutes; but Pallipatur, now on the Yamuna, at its influx into the Ganges, is in latitude 26 deg. Robertson and D'Anvil, who assert that Pallibothra is the present Eleabad, or Allabad, deserve no credit; because these appellations are of Persian, not of Indian extraction.' P. 36.

In a note, however, Dr Forster remarks, that the village of Pallipatur lies quite close to Allahabad, the name of which is Persian, and which is of a much later origin. One eminent ingredient in Mr. Bartolomeo's work is the correction of geographical notations; and it is regretted that a map, constructed on the basis of his improvements, is not inserted in this volume.

3. '*Cruelties of Tippoo Sultan*,—Calicut, a maritime city of Malabar, had been reduced, and almost totally destroyed, by the father of this despot, who, incensed against the brave subjects of their former sovereign, took the field to gratify his revenge.

'He was preceded by 30,000 barbarians, who butchered every person who came in their way. Then followed Tippoo himself, riding on an elephant: and behind him came another corps of 30,000. The manner in which he behaved to the inhabitants of Calicut was horrid. A great part of them, both male and female, was hung. He first tied up the mothers, and then suspended the children from their necks. The cruel tyrant caused several christians and heathens to be brought out naked, and made fast to the feet of his elephants, which were then obliged to drag them about till their limbs fell in pieces from their bodies.

At

At the same time he ordered all the churches and temples to be burned, pulled down, or otherwise destroyed. Christian and pagan women were commanded to marry Mohammedans; and Mohammedan women to marry heathens and christians. Every christian, who appeared in the streets, must submit either to be circumcised or hanged on the spot. This happened in 1789, when I was at Verapole.' P. 141.

4. *State of the British Revenues in India.*—'From a letter of Mr. Hastings, formerly governor of Bengal, it appears, that the English ships which sailed from that settlement between the 1st December, 1782, and the 1st January, 1784, had on board goods to the value of 65 lacks of rupees [above three millions sterling]. This immense sum was exported, too, at a time when the English were involved in a war with the Indian princes; but to what will their exports at last amount in times of war? Their great revenues will and must decrease hereafter; for, 1. The natives are too much oppressed: 2. In a state of continual warfare and plundering, agriculture is neglected: 3. Trade and manufactures decline: 4. The country is ruined by monopolies: 5. An immense quantity of specie has been drawn from it of late years; and at present, much fewer rupees and pagodas are seen in circulation than formerly.' P. 39.

If the reasons offered in support of this conjecture still subsist, their continued operation is alarming. But the German translator, who re-considered this subject about ten years after his author's return from India, repels the allegations and established facts which justify a more propitious conclusion.

'It can, however, be proved, that the English draw much more from their Indian possessions than the author says; for, 1. Oppression is not so general as the author pretends; and besides, many abuses were rectified by the Marquis Cornwallis: 2. In Bengal, whence the English derive their great incomes, no war has properly been for a long time: 3. The East India Company has issued orders and formed resolutions for reviving agriculture and manufactures: 4. The monopoly is not very prejudicial, as it extends only to a few articles: 5. The specie exported to China and England has in part been made good by the large sums Tippoo Saib has been obliged to pay to the East India Company. In a word, the English, by their conquests in India, Ceylon, Malacca, Amboina, Banda, &c. have considerably enlarged their revenue.

5. *Population of Malayala.*—'The inhabitants of Malayala, which, comprehending all its provinces from Cape Illi to Tovala, is 120 Indian miles in length; and, from the Gauts to the sea, between 25 and 30 in breadth; consists, besides the native Indians, who are partly pagans and partly christians, of Arabs, black and white Jews, Canarians, and Europeans of different nations, who have there formed establisments.' P. 149.

For the sake of abbreviation, we condense into a concise table the heterogeneous crowd exhibiting the distinctions of class.

Original Inhabitants - - - - - - - -	1,600,000
Catholic Christians observing the Syro-Chaldaic ritual -	140,000
Newly converted Christians, observing the Latin ritual - -	100,000
Jews, resident in Muttam, Caiamcolla, Mattincera - - -	20,000
Arabs, established since the IXth century - -	100,000
Canarians, Banians, Cettis, Cumuttis - - -	30,000
Europeans, Creoles, &c. Catholics, Lutherans, and Calvinists	15,000
Sum, two millions five thousand - - -	2,005,000

'This calculation was made, too, at a time when the population of the country had greatly suffered by the wars with Hayder Ali and Tippoo Saib. If we reflect, therefore, that this district is not very large, that it is intersected by a great number of streams, and that on the East it is bounded by high mountains and impenetrable forests, it is evident, that, in proportion to its cultivated surface it is well peopled.'

From

From a note by Dr. Forster, this inference, in itself obvious, derives the evidence of demonstration.

'This population, in a country so small as the coast of Malabar, or Malayala, is undoubtedly very great. About 40 Malabar miles make a degree. This coast, therefore, contains, at most, 450 geographical square miles, and to each of these are, consequently, almost 3703 persons. In other parts of India a far greater number of persons lives on a square mile; but we must take into consideration the mountains, forests, lakes, and rivers; also the devastations by recent wars.

10. *Origin of Alphabets.*—'So early as the time of Alexander the Great, the Indians were accustomed to write on palm-leaves, as they do at present. This appears by Curtius in particular; and, according to the testimony of Arrian, they, at those periods, had hymns, songs, and poems, written either on palm-leaves or a kind of woven cotton paper, drawn through rice-water, and then pressed smooth. Some of the antient Indian Kings, such as Puru, who sent a letter to Augustus Octavius Cæsar, wrote either on cotton or silk cloth, as the Thibetians do at present. The well known Indian fables, ascribed to Pilpay, were written by Vishnu Sarman, a Brahman, who belonged probably to the sect of the Samanæi. He flourished twenty years before Zoroaster, and was prime minister in the court of the Indian King Dabshelim. His fables were translated into the Persian, about the sixth century before the birth of Christ, by a Persian physician, (Herbelot calls him Buzerwich,) who was sent to India by King Artaxerxes, or Anushirvan. When I combine, therefore, every thing I have already said, the ancient inscriptions in the subterranean temples at Salsette, Cialembron, Mabalipuri, and other places; the testimony of so many respectable writers, and the concordant traditions preserved among the Brahmans, as well as among the Persians; I am more and more confirmed in the opinion, that the Indians, many centuries before the birth of Christ, had their own peculiar characters and modes of writing, as well as original written works; the authors of which, such as Amarusinha, Kalidasa, Pilpay, or rather Vishnu Sarman, lived before that period. We shall approach pretty near the truth, if we suppose that the fables of Pilpay, the Mahabharada, Yudhisktera, Ramayana, and different astronomical works, were written about the fifth or sixth century before the Christian æra.' P. 395.

With all indulgence to Mr. Bartolomeo's combinations of ancient inscriptions, testimonies, and traditions, in favour of the Asiatic written chronicles, we cannot accede to the position, that national registers were accurately kept, in the kingdoms contiguous to the Indus and Ganges, so early as the time of Cyrus, in the sixth century before the christian epoch. That the use of visible speech was coeval with civil establishments, and universally applied to the preservation of historical records, is an axiom confidently affirmed and too rashly adopted. Suppose, though the fact has not been proved, that all the nations of the east were in possession of national archives 600 years before Augustus Cæsar, it cannot reasonably be assumed that they were likewise extant 600 more before the time of Cyrus the Great. The space of 1200 years before our era extends upwards to the ministry of the prophet Samuel, at which time the remote nations of the east have no memorial of physical or political existence. Much less can any credible document be produced to ascertain their claims to a prior antiquity of several millions in Brahmanical years.

7. *Revolutionary Principles.* 'When the European inhabitants in Malabar heard of the French revolution, they ran into the streets, bawling out in full jubilee "*Liberty and Equality*;" the Pagans and Mohammedans did the same, calling "Liberty and Equality for us also; as we are all free and equal, we can no longer acknowledge you for our masters." This idea they indeed actually carried into execution, and expelled all the French.' P. 143.

The last paragraph of the book, relative to this subject, shall conclude our extracts.

'On the 29th September, 1789, we at length entered the harbour of Brest, where we expected to find all our troubles at an end; but unfortunately we learned that the whole kingdom was in the utmost confusion. As it was impossible for us to return to India, I was obliged to submit to my fate, and to accommodate myself to the times, while force had usurped the place of justice. It may readily be comprehended, that, in the course of my journey home through France, where the delirium of liberty had risen to its highest pitch, I had too many opportunities of making comparisons between other nations and my dear countrymen the Europeans, not much to the honour of the latter.'

Important subjects derive lustre from the abilities of those who exhibit them to public view in the most attractive form. An elegant, well proportioned, or grand object, in the hands of a masterly painter, retains, in its representation, the peculiar excellences of the antitype. Whether this or the former version does greater justice to Mr. Bartolomeo as an author, we refer the decision to those who understand all the three languages, and have minutely compared both the translations with the Italian original. Of the author's talents we have a satisfactory specimen in this edition of his work from the British press, and in the British dialect. His professional engagement, as a master of the ancient Oriental tongues in an eminent European seminary, qualified him for the speedy acquisition of their living ramifications in their native soil. Thus has he been enabled to introduce into Europe a standard for Indian orthography. Nor is this his sole merit. In the geography of several places he has corrected the surveys and maps of former proficients in the perspective art, at least suggested hints for future improvement. Various were his opportunities of examining the diversified productions of nature and art, and in all he discovers knowledge extensive and minute.

In India are two factions of Romish christians, under the jurisdiction of two bishops, the one papal, the other of St. Thomas, in the Portuguese interest, who often warmly contend for the right of spiritual judicature. Between the partisans of either party he was a cool and pacific moderator. But his powers of address were most eminently displayed in procuring relief for his flock from the exorbitant impositions of tyrannical despots, whom he confronted with the sovereign of Tanjour, and always obtained not only redress, but an enlargement of privileges. As a supplement to the Asiatic Researches, elucidating them in some instances, and correcting them in others, this work has considerable merit, and needs not our panegyric.

LONDON

LONDON CATALOGUE,

For JANUARY, 1800.

DIVINITY.

A Letter to the Rev. Robert Hawker, D. D. Vicar of the Parish of Charles, Plymouth, occasioned by his late Expedition into Cornwall. By the Rev. R. Polwhele, Vicar of Manacean. Cadell and Davies. 1799. 12*mo. pp.* 91.

DR. Hawker, the author of several theological publications, is here charged with certain methodistical tenets and practices, contrary to sound doctrine and ecclesiastical canons. Among the errors in opinion here specified and censured, Mr. Polwhele mentions the notion of irresistible grace, instantaneous conversion, the conceit of immediate and miraculous communications with the Deity, the claim to Apostolical powers. These and other heterodox positions are authenticated by an Appeal to Dr. Hawker's writings, particularly his book on the Operations of the Holy Ghost, and Three Dialogues between a Minister and one of his Parishioners. On the supposition that the Doctor is a professed Methodist, and adopts all the whims of that popular party, Mr. Polwhele collects, from Bishop Lewington's Treatise on Enthusiasm, a variety of extravagant things said and done by Wesley and Whitfield. For his own oddities we think Dr. Hawker is responsible; not for those of others, unless he approve and imitate them.

The specifical charge of excentricity in conduct is his extending his work and labour of love beyond his own populous parish to the east and to the west; so that the fame of his preaching has echoed from the Heights of Maker and re-echoed from the shores of the Lizard. It is affirmed that he has acquired a portentous influence over the Calvinists in the West of England; that in his late Quixotic expedition he boasted of his numerous congregations, and, like his father Whitfield, exulted in the Hosannas of the multitude. It is not said, or insinuated, that he preached at the meeting-house, in the barn, or in the field; but, under the imposing mask of his Divinity, took possession of the pulpits of some who were strangers to his doctrines. If his doctrines be palpably absurd or of immoral tendency, the established clergy will judge well in refusing him admittance into their pulpits. It is admitted, that he has the fascination of eloquence. The man's foible is, perhaps, vanity. He loves to hear himself speak, and to collect multitudes. But, were he once denied access to the parochial pulpits, he will, as an itinerant apostle, collect multitudes in the fields, lay his followers under contribution for building meeting-houses, and make godliness lucrative.

This remonstrance, we doubt not, is well meant. Of its efficacy our hopes are not sanguine. If Dr. Hawker has maintained doctrines contradictory to the XXXIX Articles, renounced the Liturgy, or violated the canons and rubrics, he is responsible to his Diocesan.

Edinburgh Clerical Review; or, Weekly Report of the different Sermons preached every Sunday by the established Clergy of Edinburgh. Drawn up by a Society of Gentlemen. No. 1. 8vo. 6d. *Stewart, Edinburgh.* 1799.

This publication may be more properly called a *Report* than a Review of the different Sermons preached in Edinburgh. The editors do not pretend to give any opinion on the merits of the respective discourses, either in doctrine or composition. We are informed in the advertisement, that the clergy of Edinburgh announced their unanimous disapprobation of the design; but they will with difficulty withhold their approbation of its execution, since they all successively become the subject of panegyric.

POLITICS.

Review of a Publication entitled The Speech of the Right Honourable John Foster, Speaker of the House of Commons of Ireland. In a Letter addressed to him by William Smith, Esq. M. P. A new Edition. Wright. 8vo. 2s. 1799.

That the union of Ireland with Great Britain would be generally beneficial, and to Ireland itself in particular, is a proposition which does not, in our opinion, admit a doubt: while, on the other hand, the competency of any parliament to effect this union is extremely questionable. Mr. Smith is a clear and vigorous reasoner in favour of the union. The speaker said, '*Reject* the offer, and adhere to the constitution of 1782.' Mr. Smith says, '*Accept* the offer, and adhere to the constitution of 1782.' These expressions will shew, in a concise manner, the stress of the argument between Mr. Smith and Mr. Foster. Mr. Foster considers the union as incompatible with the adjustment, which he calls *final*, of 1782; while Mr. Smith contends, that that adjustment was imperfect and preparative, and can only be completed by the measure in debate.

Observations on the Union, Orange Associations, and other Subjects of Domestic Policy: With Reflections on the late Events on the Continent. By George Moore, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister at Law. 8vo. *Debrett.* 1799.

In one of the most argumentative Anti-Gallican pamphlets we ever read, Mr. Moore recommends, from a conscientious conviction, a union with Great Britain as essential to the happiness of the Irish people. His arguments tend to prove, that it will deliver them from a 'party government' that has long oppressed them, and 'pinned their noble faculties to the earth;' that it will secure a fair, unprejudiced

unprejudiced hearing to their grievances, and a calm dispassionate discussion to their laws. 'Irish genius (says he) and Irish valour will have room to exert themselves; we shall not be confined to the melancholy task of reading the achievements of our countrymen in some mercenary foreign service, where the eye of the patriot must drop a tear over every victory. Irishmen shall lead the armies of their king and country to battle and to glory.'—We may safely recommend this pamphlet to every reader who wishes to form a rational judgment on the pending question of a union of the kingdoms.

GRAMMAR.

An Abridgement of Mr. Ruddiman's Rudiments and Grammar of the Latin Tongue: With his English Rules of Construction entire; and the Compiler's Notes and Illustrations, &c. To which is prefixed a short Vocabulary, English and Latin. By George Chapman, LL.D. 12mo. *Cadell and Davies, &c.* 1799.

The author of this useful abridgement has, in general, adhered to the plan pursued in the original grammar. He has illustrated many parts that were not sufficiently clear to common capacities, and omitted several which a greater progress in the rudiments will enable boys to learn with more advantage. The plainest style is used throughout, and just ideas of the grammatical terms which are introduced are distinctly conveyed.

HISTORY, VOYAGES, BIOGRAPHY, &c.

The Life of Robert Fergusson: With a Critique on his Works. By David Irving. 12mo. *pp.* 44. *Glasgow.* 1799.

This biographical prefix to the works of a Scottish poet we understand to be the production of a literary student who has just completed his academical course at the university of Edinburgh. Under this view it demands our particular notice and encomium, from being marked by a solidity of moral reflection, and by a maturity of observation on letters and on life. As a composition, it is distinguished by neatness of diction; as a memoir, it bears that stamp of authenticity which alone can give current value to any piece of biography.

Robert Fergusson is to be numbered in that pitiable class of mortals whom we colloquially characterise as no 'one's enemy but their own.' He appears to have had a lively fancy and a cultivated mind; but he was erratic, indolent, and dissipated. His life presents a melancholy series of self-created perplexities, and he closed his miserable existence in a public asylum for lunatics at the age of 24. Such sad examples should not be without their use.

As a specimen of Mr. Irving's style, we select his general critique on pastoral poetry.

'There is something in the nature of pastoral poetry, which seems to preclude all hopes of succeeding in that species of composition. The life of a

shepherd admits of little variety: in the morning he leads his flocks to their wonted pasture, and when the shades of evening begin to descend, again collects them in some spot where they may spend the night in safety. Few passions agitate his breast: he is no stranger to love; but his method of gaining the affections of his mistress is such as every shepherd adopts. The objects of nature with which he is conversant have so often been displayed with all the glowing colours of poetry, that it would be no easy task to produce any thing new upon the subject. Among the ancients, Theocritus, Moschus, Bion, and Virgil, are the only pastoral poets whose works have obtained any considerable degree of celebrity. The productions of Nemesian and Calpurnius seem to merit more attention than has hitherto been bestowed upon them. Though much inferior to Virgil, they may both be read with pleasure.'

This juvenile opusculum is inscribed with much propriety to Robert Anderson, M. D. who contributed his intelligent assistance toward its formation; and whom we have had occasion to notice already in our present volume, as "the eager friend of youthful genius."—See p. 257. To Dr. Anderson's improved edition of his *Lives of the British Poets*, we look forward with ardent expectation.

Voyage round the World, performed in the Years 1785—1788, *by M. De la Peyrouse, abridged from the original French Journal of the Author, lately published by M. Milet-Mureau, in Obedience to an Order from the French Government. To which are added, A Voyage from Manilla to California, by Don Antonio Maurelle; and an Abstract of the Voyage and Discoveries of the late Captain G. Vancouver. Brown, Edinburgh.* 8vo. *pp.* 352. 1799.

Next, in utility, to entire works of approved worth, are judicious Abstracts, as doubly economical in the expence of money and time. These voyages at large have been separately imported; the two former in a French impression; the last in the original English MS. and soon after printed. Peyrouse had the precaution to forward his papers occasionally for the information of his countrymen, at different times; and a combination of favourable circumstances rescued them from the disastrous catastrophe of the expedition, and of its justly-lamented conductor. Soon after the publication of the French MSS. were they translated into English, printed in three octavo volumes, and reviewed in our numbers for March and June last.

After revising those articles, we supersede the short memoirs of the author's active life, the objects of this his last voyage, his discoveries, and whatever else we selected from the narrative in its full dimensions. Suffice it now to exhibit, in substance, the contents of the work in its abbreviated form.

Chap. I. Design of the voyage; and course to the isle of St. Catharine's, on the eastern coast of South America.

II. Voyage, observations and transactions, from 6th Nov. 1785, to 8th April 1786; including the course from St. Catharine's to Easter

Easter Island—Descriptions of St. Catharine's—Settlement of Conception, on the coast of Chili.

III. Narrative continued from the arrival at Easter Island till the departure from the Sandwich Isles on the 1st of June, 1786—Description of Easter Island, with some particulars on the Sandwich Isles.

IV. Narrative continued to the beginning of August, 1786: including the course from the Sandwich Isles to Port de la Français, with the transactions, misfortunes, and discoveries.

V. Narrative continued to the end of September, 1786—Progress down the N. W. coast of America, from Port Français to Monterey—Discoveries and observations—Description of Monterey Bay—Astronomical observations—Sketch of the present state of the two Californias, &c.

VI. Narrative continued to January, 1787—Course from Monterey to the road of Macao.

VII. Narrative continued to April, 1787—Transactions at Macao, with a description of that place—Passage to Luconio; thence to Manilla—Description of Manilla, &c.

VIII. Narrative continued from 9th of August, 1787—Course to explore the N. E. coast of China and Chinese Tartary—Discoveries in the sea of Japan, in the channel of Tartary, and on the Tartarian coast.

IX. Narrative continued to September, 1787—Transactions and discoveries in the bay de Castries—Discoveries of a strait dividing Jesso from Oku-Jesso—Vocabulary of the Ichoka language, named by the Russians Segalien—Course to Kamtschatka.

X. Narrative continued to October, 1787—Transactions in the bay of Avatscha—Short account of Kamtschatka—Departure upon a southern course.

XI. Narrative continued to 14th December, 1787—Course from Avatscha Bay southward to the Navigators' Isles—Anchorage at the Isle of Maouna—Manners of the inhabitants—Massacre of M. de Langle, with eleven persons out of the two crews—Isles of Oyolava and Pola—Intercourse with their inhabitants—Cocoa and Traitor Isles, &c.

XII. Narrative continued from 23d December, 1787, to the end of January, 1788—Course from the Navigator's Isles to Botany Bay—Island of Vavao—Traffic with the people of Tongataboo—Description of Norfolk Island, &c.

As an analysis was omitted in our more extended strictures on the entire work, it is here added as a proper directory for the readers of this epitome. To the volume is prefixed a chart of the South Sea, with the tract of the frigates Boussole and Astrolabe.

Voyage of Don Antonio Maurelle.

This short narrative of 80 pages, in its abridged form, is here inserted, because it throws more light than the whole journal of Peyrouse on the manners of the people in those remote isles of the Southern

Southern Ocean by which European curiosity has been so strongly attracted. Maurelle seems to have acted with considerably more spirit, prudence, and fertility of resources, accommodated to the exigences of a new situation, than the French circumnavigator in his intercourse with these barbarian islanders. This abstract contains the only account which we in England possess of the intercourse between the Spaniards and the natives of those newly discovered isles. According to the editor's opinion, Maurelle's calculations are very inaccurate; yet his defects in scientifical knowledge are, it seems, compensated by the arts of address in transactions with the savage tribes.

Voyage of Capt. G. Vancouver.

This was a voyage of discovery to the N. Pacific Ocean and round the world, performed in six years, from 1790 to 1795 inclusively, in his Britannic Majesty's ships the Discovery sloop of war and the Chatham armed tender.

This notable officer, after traversing those seas which intersect and encompass our spacious globe, perished not, as did Cook, by the hands of wild savages; neither like Peyrouse, as is supposed, but not with certainty, by a conflict of the elements; but by a natural, though premature, death, shortly after his successful expedition, but before the publication of his journal, under the inspection of a brother, in two quarto volumes, letter press, with one, consisting of plates, in folio, 1798.

In the third number of our periodical lucubrations, for March 1799, this interesting work was announced with such expressions of approbation as impartiality required, and justice could not withhold. To our strictures in that and a subsequent number we refer our readers for information concerning the objects of the voyage, the various incidents which signalized the execution of it, and the final result of the enterprise. With the editor's remarks on the subject at large we conclude our account of this concise abstract.

'The very valuable and well-written account of these Voyages has been just given to the public—the work of the commander by whom the expedition was conducted. It is to be lamented, that a man so accomplished was called away from the service of his country in the full vigour of intellect, and in the zenith of usefulness, while the last sheets of his work were in the press. The very brief abstract of his narrative will clearly evince the importance of VANCOUVER's discoveries on the north-west coast of America, and, it is hoped, contribute to diffuse wider the fame of his expedition, but cannot injure the sale of the original work, of which this is, in truth, but a very meagre skeleton. Vancouver and his companions proved themselves to be much better qualified than the French navigators with that patience, perseverance, penetration, comprehensive sagacity, fortitude, and cool intrepidity, which are necessary to the successful accomplishment of any very perilous and extensive voyage of discovery. Vancouver

Vancouver appears to me to have sufficiently evinced the impossibility of any passage for ships between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans within those latitudes between which the passage has been sought. But I am far from believing that he has traced, with the utmost accuracy the whole outline of the coast which he has surveyed. He sailed over that parallel of latitude in which Peyrouse places his Port de Français, without discovering its existence, and I doubt not but much remains to be yet discovered on these coasts by the diligence of future navigators.'

Admit that the expected discovery is impracticable, we learn from this abstract that Captain Vancouver's geographical and astronomical observations are much more accurate than those of former voyagers, and that he has ascertained a method of rendering the British commerce in furs far more extensive and profitable than in any past period.

Public Characters of 1799. 8*vo.* 9*s. Philips.* 1800.

The difficulties that occur to prevent a work of this nature from being complete are numerous, and in some instances insurmountable. Among the principal obstacles may be reckoned the want of authentic materials, the necessity of speaking with caution and delicacy of the public and private conduct and manners of cotemporary persons, and the impossibility of preserving uniformity in the execution of a variety of articles supplied by different writers. The spirit of candour and moderation evidently pervades the present publication; but it is to be lamented, for the interests of posterity, that it it is debased by the spirit of unqualified panegyric frequently approaching to fulsome adulation. Though the biographer of living public characters can not write all that he knows, he certainly has it in his power to suppress unmerited eulogium; and if he dare not censure where he ought, he should at least be silent where—

"Praise undeserved is satire in disguise."

The public characters of the present year are superior in composition and interest to the preceding volume. The memoirs of the learned and amiable Dr. Currie, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Erskine, bear strong marks of authenticity, and are written with elegance and spirit. It may be justly observed, that the sketch of Mr. Sheridan's life is the only faithful one which has been yet offered to the public. The life of Major Cartwright is swelled to an extravagant size by the absurd introduction of long quotations from the different productions of that gentleman, and of the opinions of different Reviewers with respect to the merit of his works; and we are concerned to notice, that the publisher has very imprudently annexed to the memoirs of the Rev. Mr. Graves an etching of that respectable character taken from a ridiculous caricature in the pump-room at Bath. Some of the Irish characters are drawn with great discrimination, and that of Dr. Duigenan displays acuteness of powers and

and felicity of expression which are rarely to be found in the fleeting productions of the day.

The work contains much variation of style and considerable inequality of literary merit; but it abounds in interesting anecdote, and in moral and critical observations that evince correctness of judgment and delicacy of taste.

MILITARY AND NAVAL.

Six Engravings, representing the Six Cuts in the Sword Exercise of the Cavalry, &c. &c. 8vo. 2s. 6d. *Hurst.* 1799.

The publisher has accompanied his engravings with satisfactory instructions for performing the cuts and guards, the exercise in classes, and the attack and defence. The instructions principally tend to the elucidation of the plates; and some equestrian directions are annexed, which display a correct knowledge of horsemanship.

The Dutch Expedition Vindicated; with brief Observations on the Emigrants. To which is added a Postscript, containing the Supplement to the Account of the Armistice concluded between his Royal Highness the Duke of York and General Brune. 8vo. 1s. *Stockdale.* 1799.

The author seems little acquainted with the nature of the cause he has undertaken to defend. He has not sufficiently considered the general state of continental affairs, and the particular situation of the Batavian republic, which justified on the broad principles of political wisdom our exertions for the deliverance of Holland. His reasoning is weak, and his language spiritless:—

> "Non tali auxilio, nec defensoribus istis
> Tempus eget."

The vindication and the observations on the emigrants may be considered as a kind of preface to the supplemental account of the armistice concluded between the Duke of York and General Brune, which was published in the London Gazette of the 23d of last November.

A Letter to the Committee for raising the Naval Pillar, or Monument, under the Patronage of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence. By John Flaxman, Sculptor. 4to. *Cadell and Davies, Payne and Evans.* 1799.

Mr. Flaxman, in offering his plan to the committee, takes a general view of some of the most distinguished monuments of antiquity for the purpose of considering how far their designs might be made applicable to the proposed erection, and, after giving the preference to the *colossal statue*, as more capable than the *triumphal arch*, or the *column*, of combining magnificence, power, and skill, submits the following hints to the committee:

'A statue might be raised like the Minerva in the Athenian citadel, whose aspect and size should represent the genius of the empire: its magnitude should equal the Colossus of Rhodes; its character should be Britannia Triumphant; it

it should be mounted on a suitable pedestal and basement; the pedestal might be decorated with the heroes and trophies of the country, and the history of its prowess inscribed upon the basement. The whole work might be raised to the height required, two hundred and thirty feet, and present the noblest monument of national glory in the world.

The expence of this undertaking he estimates at about 60,000l. and proposes that it should be provided for by two hundred thousand subscriptions of 5s. each, to be collected throughout the different parishes of the kingdom, which, with the assistance of government in giving the transport of the marble, he calculates, would be adequate to the completion of the work.

Mr. Flaxman's model, which consists of a view of Greenwich Hospital, with a statue of Britannia on the hill, is certainly bold in its effect, but it does not possess the true characteristics of a *naval* monument.

A Letter to the Nobility and Gentry composing the Committee for raising the Naval Pillar, or Monument, under the Patronage of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence; in Answer to the Letter of Mr. John Flaxman, Sculptor, to the Committee, on that Subject. By Alexander Dufour, Architect. 4to. 1s. 6d. *Taylor.* 1799.

Mr. Dufour displays great taste and ingenuity in his answer; and as it was particularly enjoined by the committee, that all models or drawings should be sent in without the name of the author, evidently with a view of precluding all suspicion that reputation or friends could have any influence in the choice, Mr. Flaxman was not justified in affixing his name to his design, and accompanying it with a public explanation. Had Mr. Dufour been less intemperate in his expressions, his answer would have been more satisfactory.

The emulation of artists, and the rivalship of sculptors and architects, are, we fear, at an end with respect to this patriotic undertaking, as we learn that the design has been abandoned in consequence of the insufficiency of the fund, which did not, at the end of last month, amount to five thousand pounds.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Fragments of the Natural History of Pennsylvania. By Benjamin Smith Barton, M. D. Part I. Folio. 4s. *Robinsons.* 1799.

These sketches contain many curious particulars, hitherto unknown, respecting the migratory birds and the progress of vegetation in a country the natural history of which has been much neglected. The most interesting part of the work consists of the first ten pages, each of which is divided into five columns. The first relates to the day of the month when the birds mentioned arrived, or were first seen, in the vicinity of Philadelphia; the second contains the scientific Latin names of each bird, in which the system of Linnæus is, on every possible occasion, adhered to; in the third we find the English scientific and the English provincial names; the fourth respects the

progress of vegetation; and the fifth column contains miscellaneous observations.

This picture of the natural history of the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, though allowed by the Doctor to be in an imperfect state, must prove truly interesting to all lovers of science in every part of the world. He promises to publish, in the course of the present year, two other parts on different subjects of the natural history of the state of Pennsylvania.

NOVELS.

A Winter's Tale. In 4 Vols. By J. N. Brewer, Author of the "Mansion-House," &c. 12mo. Lane.

A tender connection of Edward the Black Prince with the fair Selima forms the ground-work of this tale, which is amusing without being immoral.

Suzett's Dowry; or, the History of Madame de Sennetere. Related by herself. Translated from the French. 12mo. Earl and Hemet.

A novel of *mediocre* merit very lamely translated. The idiom is French throughout.

Henry of Northumberland; or, the Hermit's Cell. A Tale of the Fifteenth Century. In 3 Vols. 12mo. Lane.

These volumes profess to be compiled from a manuscript discovered in an antient mansion in the north of England, and relate what we are to suppose the domestic history of the son of the gallant Hotspur, who lost his life at the battle of Shrewsbury. The circumstances on which the celebrated poem of "The Hermit of Warkworth" is founded are here narrated, with the addition of various incidents which will render the work very acceptable to novel readers in general.

Court Intrigue; or, the Victim of Constancy: An Historical Romance. By the Author of "Mental Improvement." 2 Vols. 12mo. Lane.

The incidents are chiefly those of the licentious court of Charles II. and the main character appears to be sketched for the Duchess of Portsmouth. We meet with many often-told anecdotes of Lord Rochester and others; and, on the whole, this book is of the ordinary sale-work of the circulating library.

Reginald; or, the House of Mirandola. A Romance. By the Author of Melbourne. 3 Vols, 12mo. Lane.

This is professedly an imitation of the manner of Mrs. Radcliffe's "Udolpho;" and, in our opinion, not an unsuccessful one. The story is well told, and is calculated to promote the exercise of the moral virtues.

Fashionable

Fashionable Involvements; a Novel. By Mrs. Gunning. In 3 Vols. Longman and Rees. 1800.

The miseries of a life of dissipation are here well depicted; and, were the style of the author herself free from flippancy and fashionable cant, we should be happy to speak of this novel with praise and recommendation. As it is, we greatly fear that the valuable lessons which *may* be gathered from it, will, in most instances, pass unregarded; while the faults are remembered, admired, and copied.

The Spirit of the Castle, a Romance, in 2 Vols. By William Charles Proby, Author of the "Mysterious Seal," &c. 12mo. Crosby and Letterman." 1800.

We cannot compliment Mr. Proby upon having improved either in invention or composition. The events are the mere common-place of all romance writers since the days of the "Mysteries of Udolpho." The language is frequently incorrect.

The Lord of Hardwyle; an Historical Legend of the Fourteenth Century. 12mo. pp. 174. *Trepass. London.* 1800.

That this is a *lying legend* we may safely venture to assert. The language is incorrigibly bad; and the story absurd and monstrous.

Count di Novini; or, the Confederate Carthusians: a Neapolitan Tale. In 3 Vols. 12mo. 10*s.* 6*d. Robinsons.* 1799.

This novel has some claims to superiority. The writer has humour and vivacity. We have been much amused by Thomaso, Beatrice, and Marcó: all the characters exhibit a talent for discrimination; and that of the Count di Novini is not, because it is full of seeming inconsistency, the less natural. With these merits, however, we regret to find the book exhibiting the usual train of crimes and disasters. The general vivacity of the language is at variance with calamities which it so incessantly narrates: there is in it also a laxity if not licentiousness, which should be reprehended. The author is a philosopher of the laughing-school; and this temper is so predominant that the reader is compelled to take the most horrid transactions in good humour. He makes us laugh at any trifle; but in relating the deepest calamities he produces scarcely any impression: so that, after perusing a string of murders, seduction, and various atrocities, we close the book with remembrance of little beside its pleasantries. In exciting our mirth, moreover, the author is not always cautious that it shall be worthily excited. He makes very free with religious opinions, and, as these relate chiefly to the church of Rome, they will be readily tolerated; but he ventures too far, when he introduces part of the second commandment to heighten his jest. The conversations between Marco and Rizambo, and between the latter and Novini, are full of puerile insolence, which a writer of good taste would never have invented: the behaviour of Thomaso

to Beatrice is another instance of absurd composition; and his trick respecting her hair is, not humorous, but wicked.

Exhibitions of the Heart: a Novel, in 4 Vols. Dedicated (by Permission) to the Queen. By Miss Hutchinson. 12*mo. Kearsley.* 1799.

This novel, as we learn from the author's *proposals*, was printed with a view to the relief of pecuniary distress; to which, since the capture of Holland, herself and family have been exposed. After holding up this consideration as a shield to "blunt the keen edge of criticism," the young author has thought proper to fill her first chapter with silly common-place against critics. An effusion of this sort was not altogether, perhaps, well judged.

Respecting the motive of publication, Miss H. is not alone; but we are happy to see, from the patronage of her Majesty, and a list of subscribers of the first rank, that she is not among the number of those who have "no friend."—We mention the author's advantage only because it releases us from that restraint which, in a case of this nature, our feelings might be supposed to lay upon our judgment. We confess that the book is wanting, to us, in interest; a misfortune which we attribute to the multiplicity of the characters, and the desultoriness of the incidents: but we have been gratified in our progress through it with frequent "exhibitions" of observation and sentiment which are very honourable to the writer's heart and talents; and we believe that Miss H. would have produced a still better work, had she read fewer novels, or been more aware of their imperfections.

DRAMA.

More Kotzebue! The Origin of my own Pizarro, a Farce. Minor-Rosciad, or Churchillean Epistle from Dick to Jack. 8*vo.* 1*s.* 6*d. Crosby and Letterman.* 1799.

There is more justice than humour, and less wit than either, in this satirical attack on the editor of the tragedy of Pizarro.

The Wise Man of the East; or, the Apparition of Zoroaster, the Son of Oromases, to the Theatrical Midwife of Leicester Fields: A satirical Poem. By Thomas Dutton, A. M. 8*vo.* 2*s.* 6*d. Symonds and Bellamy.* 1799.

Mrs. Inchbald's Wise Man of the East has furnished many just grounds for criticism, and the author of the Apparition of Zoroaster directs his satire against her comedy with considerable success. He seems so very much in earnest, that we are inclined to say, "*facit indignatio versum.*" His lines are, in general, well turned, and his observations warranted by the imperfections of the piece.

The

The Wise Man of the East: A Play in Five Acts, performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. From the German of Kotzebue. By Mrs. Inchbald. 8vo. 2s. *Robinsons.* 1799.

The popularity enjoyed by the muse of Kotzebue in this country having induced the proprietors of Covent Garden theatre to apply to the German dramatist for one of his unpublished plays, they were accordingly gratified, on the payment of a considerable sum, with the comedy of the *Writing Desk*, from a literal translation of which the Wise Man of the East was adapted to the English stage by Mrs. Inchbald.

From the taste, judgment, and sensibility evinced by this lady, not only in her own productions, but in the alteration of Lovers' Vows, which was attended with uncommon success, the admirers of the Drama were justified in entertaining sanguine hopes of witnessing a performance of superior merit with respect to passion, interesting incident, and novelty of character. But their expectations have been disappointed; and the Wise Man of the East will remain a striking proof, that genius has its moments of debility and depression, and that judgment may be degraded by attempting to improve a subject unworthy in every respect of exercising the meanest talents. It would be difficult to find a more wretched production than the Writing Desk, whether the fable or the sentiments be considered. The characters are frivolous and disgusting, and the incidents, which appear to be shuffled together by the legerdemain of a theatrical juggler, do not possess the merit of dexterity to recommend them, but are awkward, paltry, and contemptible. With such difficulties to surmount, it can not be thought surprizing that Mrs. Inchbald should have failed in her composition of the Wise Man of the East. She has, however, succeeded with more effect than could be well imagined, when the scantiness of the miserable materials which she engaged to manufacture into a marketable commodity is impartially considered. There is not a single instance to be met with, from a fair comparison of both pieces, in which her comedy is not superior to the original; and, though it can not rank as a legitimate or attractive piece, the most captious critic will hardly deny, that her alterations in reference to the ground-work, to which she was bound to adhere, have conferred on the drama of Kotzebue an interest of which it was destitute in its German dress.

Old Claransforth, an opulent merchant, impressed with strong suspicions of the integrity of his friends, and alarmed at the danger likely to result from the dissipation and thoughtless conduct of his only son, having escaped through a passage from a fire, by which his house was consumed, takes the opportunity of feigning himself dead. The report of his death is circulated and accredited. He assumes the dress of an Indian sage, appears in public under the name of Ava Thoana, and, thus disguised, carefully observes and attempts to correct the vices and follies of his son. Young Claransforth, in the mean time, proceeds in his wild career of dissipation, and is rapidly advancing to the ruin of his character and fortune. He is the dupe of Lady Mary Diamond, a gaming woman of fashion; asperses the character of Ruth Starch, who is in love with

with Ensign Metland, and attempts to seduce Ellen Metland, the daughter of his father's intimate friend. The distresses of the Metlands, whose property consisted of bank notes, thought to have been destroyed by the fire in Claransforth's house, but unexpectedly found in a writing desk (a circumstance from which the original takes its name), heighten the interest of the plot, and the peculiarities of the Starches, a family of quakers, contribute to enliven the gloom produced by the delineation of domestic want and misery.

The Wise Man of the East succeeds in his plans, rescues Ellen Metland from drowning, discovers himself to his astonished and repentant son, and resumes his former state in society with perfect satisfaction. The play terminates in the union of young Claransforth and Ensign Metland with Ellen and Ruth.

It must be obvious from this sketch of the plot, that there is no inconsiderable degree of improbability in the incidents. The introduction of the quaker-family is but a subordinate stratagem to produce temporary amusement, devoid of any essential relation to the main business of the comedy; and the coarse allusions and despicable *double-entendres* put into the mouth of Ruth Starch, are completely inconsistent with the decorum and acknowledged purity of manners that distinguish the sect to which she belongs. There is not the slightest attempt at novelty of character, but the style is generally correct, and some of the pathetic passages are natural and affecting.

POETRY.

The last Dying Words of the Eighteenth Century; a Pindaric Ode. Giving a humourous and chronological Detail of all the remarkable Events, Fashions, Characters. &c. &c. in that Period. By Andrew Merry, Esq. 8vo. 1*s.* 6*d.* *Lee.* 1800.

Andrew Merry is a mere *Merry-Andrew*. This chiming chronology would confer little credit on the bell-man, as the last page may testify:—

'Dearer one farthing is the *bread*
Than *ninety-five* when so dear!
Alas! how are those wretches fed
Who have a poor abode here!
The *porter* rises too *per pot*,
The brewers work—and why so?
The Act of Parliament, they wot,
Has left them a *proviso*.
'Tis thus the *eighteenth century* ran,
And leaves a lesson worthy man
In every story——
For in those revolutions—deeds,
Which time hath brought to light—he reads
MEMENTO MORI!!!'

The Meteors. To be continued every Fortnight. Numbers 1 *and* 2. 1*s. each.* 12*mo. Blacks.* 1799.

These METEORS are not of a *luminous* kind. They are such 'airy nothings' as the dog-star of poetry continually exhales from the moorish flats which surround Parnassus. The only genuine poetic scintilla-

tion

tion is elicited from a dramatic sketch entitled "The Suicide," and written in obvious imitation of Southey's English Eclogues. Like those, too, it abounds with gloomy images of human nature. The self-destroyer is stimulated to his impious purpose, because

> 'He found man's infamy; he saw how weak
> The bonds of human conduct; and the veil
> Which hid the foul deformity of life
> Was torn before his eyes.'

MISCELLANEOUS.

Count Rumford's Experimental Essays, Political, Economical, and Philosophical. Essay X. Part I. On the Construction of Kitchen Fire-places and Kitchen Utensils; together with Remarks and Observations relating to the various Processes of Cookery; and Proposals for improving that most useful Art. 8vo. 2s. 6d. *Cadell and Davies.* 1799.

The present Essay was announced to the public nearly four years since, but its publication has been postponed from the laudable desire to render it as free from faults as possible, and to accommodate it in every respect to the actual state of opinion and practice in this country.

The fundamental principles on which Count Rumford has proceeded, with respect to the combustion of fuel, and the management and direction of heat, have been already productive of considerable benefit to society; and his tenth Essay, formed upon the same plan, abounds in useful regulations to prevent the loss of heat and the waste of fuel.

With a reference to local circumstances, on which the distribution of the parts of a kitchen must so materially depend as to render the application of general rules useless, which the author does not therefore introduce, he considers the principles on which this distribution ought, in all cases, to be made, in point of *convenience, cleanliness,* and *symmetry.*

In describing the nature of the ovens which he strongly recommends, he insists upon the great importance of causing the smoke that heats them to descend as low as the level of the bottom, after it has passed round and over it, before it is permitted to rise up freely and escape by the chimney into the atmosphere.

The Impolicy of prohibiting the Exportation of Rock Salt from England to Scotland, to be refined there, illustrated. By John Girvin. 8vo. *pp.* 85. *Debrett.* 1s. 6d. 1799.

Our salt laws have frequently been the subject of complaint. The great price of this necessary and plentiful article is known to be highly injurious to the community in various points of view. It appears from Mr. Girvin's statements, that private interests are against the measure which Mr. G. regards as capable of producing general good. Mr. G. cites part of the speech of a member of the House of Commons against the importation of rock salt into Scotland; it contains what to us appears a very extraordinary reason for *opposition:* "He had been informed the price of marine salt manufactured in some years is 1s. 6d. in others, 2s. 6d. per bushel; whereas *if rock-salt be*

be allowed into Scotland, the price would be only *eightpence per bushel.*"—P. 18.

It is well known that a considerable quantity of fish is daily thrown away by poor fishermen, who, if salt were at a reasonable price, would cure it and use it for provision: but it should appear from the passage quoted that cheapness is not desirable.

Mr. Girvin's object, then, is to reconcile jarring interests: he endeavours to show,

'1. That the revenue will not be diminished or endangered.' P. 18.

'2. The proprietors of salt-works will not be injured either in England or Scotland.' P. 20.

'3. Considerable advantages will arise to the fisheries, the manufactories, and the whole of that part [Scotland] of the united kingdom.' P. 22.

In the first part of this pamphlet Mr. G. enquires into the natural history of salt; and from the "address" we learn, that a second publication is to contain what remains to be said upon the impolicy of the prohibition.

A Word for the Poor; or, General Thoughts candidly submitted to the good Sense, Discernment, and particular Consideration of the British Public, on the late scanty Harvest, and the dreary Prospect of a hard Winter. Interspersed are a few wholesome Hints (if rightly taken) to all deep Speculators and greedy Monopolists, whether Farmers or Cornfactors, usurious Contractors, Forestallers, Engrossers, or Regrators. With a Glance at Levellers, and a parting Word of Admonition to the Poor. By a True Lover of his Country. 1s. *Hurst.* 1799.

After wading through this prolix title we arrive at three and thirty pages of declamation against monopolists. Happily these characters have no advocates; few therefore will be disposed to cavil with this author's sentiments. The "Word for the Poor" is a sort of sermon from the text — "He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him."—PROVERBS. The writer expresses some doubt whether Christians may fulfil this denunciation, by cursing their oppressors; but he seems to be desirous that they should have curses in their hearts, at least, if not in their lips. We make this observation, because the title of the pamphlet may lead some persons to expect a recommendation to patience under real evil. The author attributes the high price of provisions, for the most part, to the machinations of mercenary men; and, on this subject, comes, we think, to a just conclusion in the following passage, which occurs as a note at p. 24.

'Confident as we are in the discretion, vigilance, and energy of his Majesty's councils, there *must* exist some hidden and *weighty* reasons which deter them from interposing their saving authority between the monopolist and the people. Else a practice so very flagrant, so unjust in principle, and so cruelly oppressive in its consequences, would not be permitted to continue with impunity.'

The "true lover of his country" must be aware, that, so long as corn shall be property, there will be very *weighty* difficulties in saying how the possessor shall dispose of it.

We confess that we could wish to see the text already quoted written in some conspicuous part of every market-place; that, like a *tempus fugit*, it might meet the eye of every visitor.